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TENSHI JA NAI!!
I'm No Angel!
Art by
Takaka Shigematsu

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I'm No Angel!

Volume 1

Story and Art by
Takako Shigematsu

go!comi

TENSHI JA NAI!

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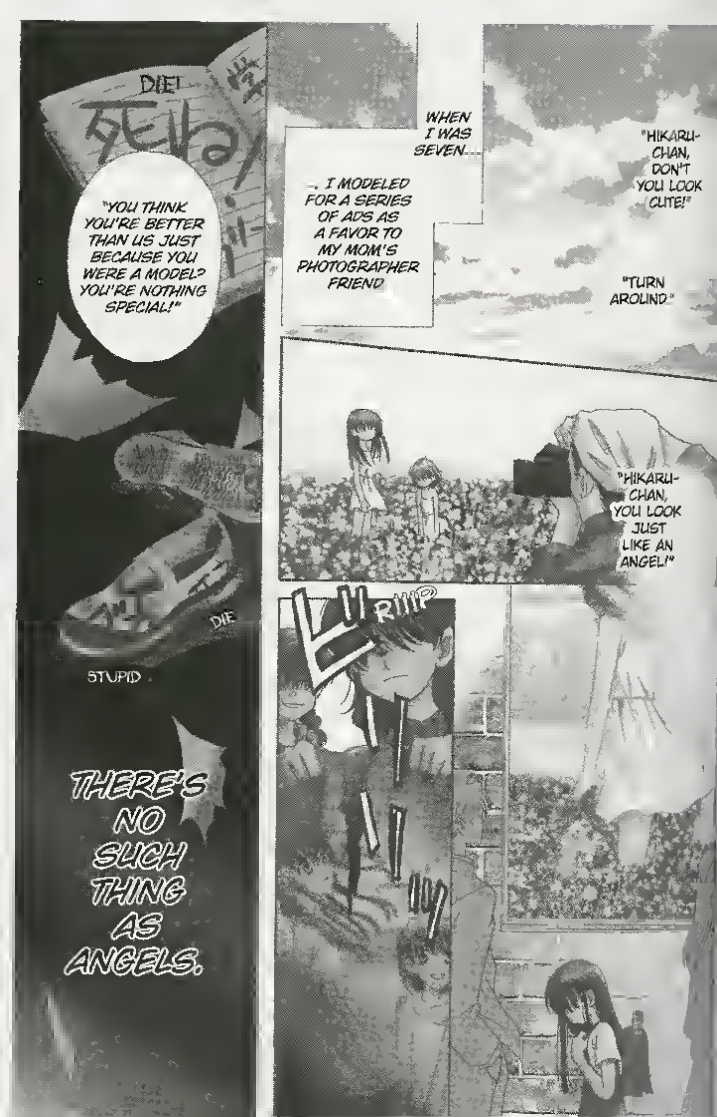

DIE!
"YOU THINK YOU'RE BETTER THAN US JUST BECAUSE YOU WERE A MODEL? YOU'RE NOTHING SPECIAL!"
DIE
STUPID
THERE'S NO SUCH THING AS ANGELS.
WHEN I WAS SEVEN...
...I MODELED FOR A SERIES OF ADS AS A FAVOR TO MY MOM'S PHOTOGRAPHER FRIEND
"HIKARU-CHAN, DON'T YOU LOOK CUTE!"
"TURN AROUND."
"HIKARU-CHAN, YOU LOOK JUST LIKE AN ANGEL!"

TENSHI JA NAI!
天使じゃない!!
SCENE 1

..I WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO ATTEND MY OLD HIGH SCHOOL.
IN THAT CASE...
YOU'RE CERTAIN YOU DON'T WANT TO MOVE TO FRANCE WITH YOUR FATHER AND ME?
AN ALL-GIRL BOARDING SCHOOL, HUH?
IT OFFERS THE PERFECT LEARNING ENVIRONMENT AND ITS TEACHERS ARE THE BEST IN JAPAN!
IT'S A VERY NICE SCHOOL, YOU'LL SEE
.. OKAY I'LL DO IT.
I GUESS IT BEATS MOVING TO FRANCE WITH MY STEP-FATHER.
IT WOULD REALLY MEAN A LOT TO ME IF YOU WENT THERE, TOO.

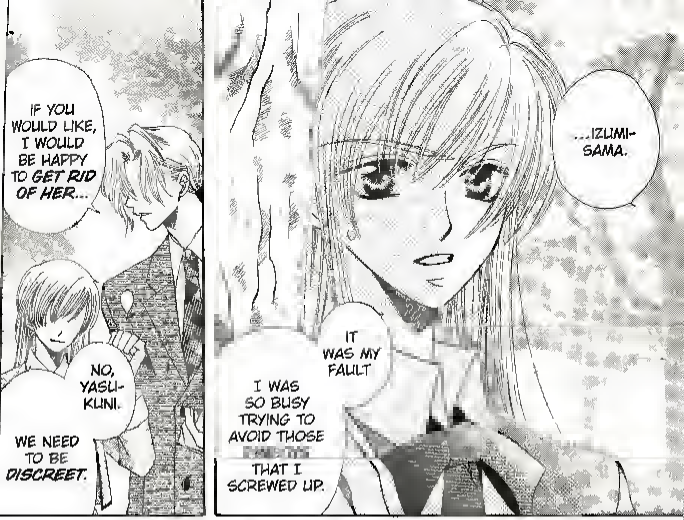
VROOM
Early May
SO, THIS IS IT...
SEIKA GIRLS' ACADEMY.
ONLY 240 STUDENTS ARE ALLOWED TO ATTEND
IT'S ONE OF THOSE PREPPY ALL-GIRL BOARDING SCHOOLS THAT CLAIM TO MOLD EACH STUDENT INTO A PERFECT WIFE AND WISE MOTHER.

AS LONG AS I CAN LEAD A QUIET, NORMAL LIFE...
...I'LL BE HAPPY.
?
murmur murmur
murmur murmur
Yeah, but she's not Izumi-chan.
murmur murmur
She's a "Sex girl"!
I could've sworn she came this way
WHO WERE THOSE LOSERS? THEY LOOKED LIKE STALKERS!
DASH!
What's her problem?
MOVE IT!!
HUH?

FWUMP
チュー
WOW..
WHAT LONG EYELASHES...
WHA--!?

SQUISH
GLOMP
Squish?
EHH !?!
jiggle jiggle
squish
squish
?
squbble
OOF!
dash
dash
WA— WAIT!
koff koff
SILICONE...?

sheep
PLOP
pon
Reverse Shuffle
?
shuffle shuffle shuffle
A QUIET, NORMAL LIFE...
I DIDN'T SEE A THING... I DIDN'T SEE A THING...
THAT'S ALL I WANT!
Really!
SO THAT'S HIKARU TAKA-BAYASHI
YOU'VE MADE QUITE AN IMPRESSION ON YOUR NEW ROOMMATE...

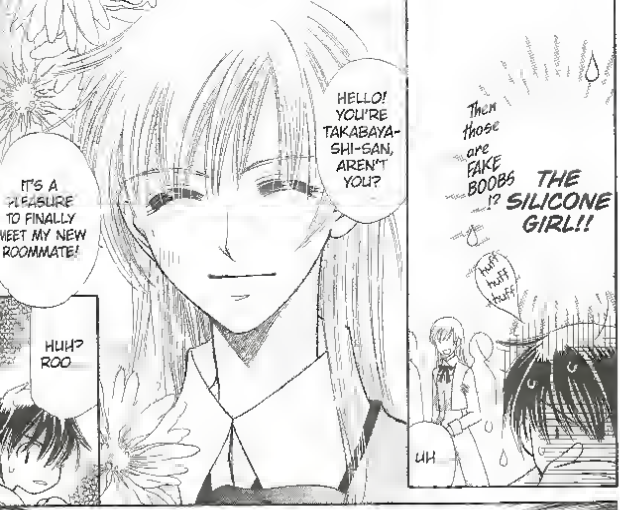

IF YOU WOULD LIKE, I WOULD BE HAPPY TO GET RID OF HER...
NO, YASUKUNI.
WE NEED TO BE DISCREET.
...IZUMI-SAMA.
IT WAS MY FAULT
I WAS SO BUSY TRYING TO AVOID THOSE
THAT I SCREWED UP.

LET'S GIVE IT SOME TIME...
I KNOW THAT YOU WOULD DO ANYTHING TO PROTECT ME, BUT THERE'S NO NEED TO OVER-REACT.
I DON'T THINK SHE NOTICED... YOU KNOW... THAT.
I'D LIKE YOU ALL TO WELCOME OUR NEW TRANSFER STUDENT, TAKABAYASHI-SAN

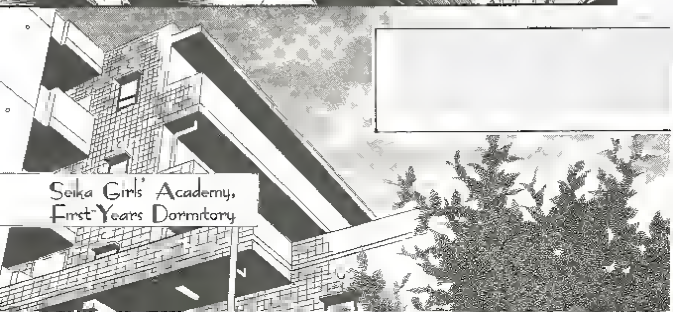
HELLO, TAKABAYASHI-SAN. I'M THE CLASS LEADER, MINAMINO. IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU!
STK
...LIKE-WISE.
SHOW HER THAT WE'RE ALL FRIENDS HERE.
SHE'S STARTING A MONTH LATE, SO, LADIES, PLEASE HELP HER FEEL AT HOME.
BUT IT'S IMPORTANT NOT TO BE TOO STAND-OFFISH!
NO I DON'T NEED THEM TO BE FRIENDLY.
...WITHOUT SEEMING LIKE I WANT THEM TO LEAVE ME ALONE
I JUST NEED TO ACT BORING SO THEY'LL LEAVE ME ALONE.
OTHERWISE, I'LL END UP STANDING OUT
IF I CAN JUST DO THAT...
...NO ONE WILL BOTHER ME UNLESS IT'S ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY!!

HOW ABOUT YOU, TAKAYASHI-SAN?
MY MOTHER GRADUATED FROM HERE.
Really? Mine, too!
Aura of indifference
WHAT MADE YOU DECIDE TO COME TO THIS SCHOOL, TAKABAYASHI-SAN?
IS ALL THAT PEPPY NICENESS OR REAL!?
Scary!
WHY WON'T THEY TAKE A HINT!?
IT... IT'S NOT WORKING!!
drip
drip
AT FIRST I DIDN'T WANT TO COME TO THIS SCHOOL...
UH FAMILY REASONS
...BUT NOW I FEEL SO LUCKY!
I MEAN, I GET TO LIVE UNDER THE SAME ROOF AS OUR BELOVED IZUMI KIDO-SAMAAA!
IZUMI?

CHATTER
I have bad feeling about this...
THE RULES SAY THAT STUDENTS AREN'T ALLOWED TO WORK IN THE ENTERTAINMENT INDUSTRY...
BUT THEY MADE AN EXCEPTION FOR IZUMI-SAMA.
OH!
IT LOOKS LIKE SHE'LL BE ATTENDING MORNING CLASSES!
YOU'VE HEARD OF HER, HAVEN'T YOU,?
EVER SINCE SHE DEBUTED IN A COMMERCIAL LAST YEAR...
...SHE'S BEEN SUPER-POPULAR FOR HER LOVELINESS AND BEALTY. SHE EVEN LANDED A REGULAR ROLE IN A TV SHOW!
I'VE NEVER EVEN HEARD OF HER, SO WHY THE SUDDEN SINKING FEELING?
THAT'S--!


HELLO! YOU'RE TAKABAYA-SHI-SAN, AREN'T YOU?
IT'S A PLEASURE TO FINALLY MEET MY NEW ROOMMATE!
HUH? ROO
Then those are FAKE BOOBS !? THE SILICONE GIRL!!
huff huff huff
UH

ROOMMATE!?


Seika Girls' Academy, First-Years Dormitory

104
THIS IS OUR ROOM.
ka-chak
IF YOU WANT PRIVACY, WE CAN CLOSE THE CURTAIN TO DIVIDE THE ROOM.
TUG
tremble tremble
NO... NO... NO...
TAKA-BAYA-SHI-SAN?
THE LAST THING I NEED IS TO SHARE A ROOM WITH A CELEBRITY!
I WANTED TO AVOID ANYTHING THAT WOULD MAKE ME STAND OUT.
tremble
tremble
?
mumble
DON'T WANT TO .
ROOM 104

...PLEASE DON'T TALK TO ME IN CLASS.
JUST PRETEND LIKE I DON'T EXIST.
I REALLY DON'T WANT TO BE ASSOCIATED WITH A CELEBRITY.
SO...
IF YOU CAN FOLLOW THOSE RULES... I PROMISE NOT TO TELL ANYONE ABOUT YOUR SILICONES.
I CAN'T BELIEVE I JUST BLACKMAILED A CELEBRITY!
BUT... IT'S NOT LIKE I HAD ANY CHOICE.
twitch
twitch
I THINK WE'RE GOING TO GET ALONG JUST FINE.
SURE. NO PROBLEM!
smile
HEH

TMP
TMP
TMP
WAIT! TAKA-BAYASHI-SAN!!
IF THAT'S WHAT IT TAKES FOR ME TO LEAD A QUIET, NORMAL LIFE . SO BE IT!!
I DON'T REALLY KNOW KIDO-SAN VERY WELL..
LIKE I SAID BEFORE
IT'S OKAY! WE DON'T CARE ABOUT THAT-- AS LONG AS YOU DELIVER THIS TO HER!
chirp
chirp
.UGH!
THANK YOU!
Izumi-sama's Box
CAN YOU GIVE HER MY FAN LETTER?
chatter
chatter
TAKA-BAYASHI-SAN! HERE'S SOME SWEETS FOR IZUMI-SAMA!
HERE'S A BOX FOR YOU-- YOU'RE GONNA NEED IT!
The Next Morning
TMP
TMP
TMP
TMP

HELLO! MOMOCHI FROM THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER, REPORTING!
Don't mind the mic—it's just for show.
HOW WAS YOUR FIRST DAY SHARING A ROOM WITH IZUMI-SAMA?
MIC
BAP!
I WONDER IF THEY'LL LET ME SWITCH ROOMS...
SOB SOB
e-up!
WHAT IS IT THIS TIME?!
zoop
zoop
zoop
Ugh!
Izumi-Sama's box
OR CAN YOU SPILL SOME DIRT ON HER YOURSELF?
...DO YOU THINK YOU COULD CONVINCE HER TO GRANT ME AN INTERVIEW?
SECURITY IS SO TIGHT AROUND IZUMI-SAMA...
I WISH...
...I REALLY COULD SCREAM LIKE THAT
EVERYONE, LEAVE ME ALONE!!!
...I'LL FOLLOW YOU WHEREVER YOU GO!
UNTIL YOU GIVE ME SOME TYPE OF NEWS...
hee hee hee

IHUG.
Izumi-Sama's Box
. . MY ONLY FRIEND I MISS YOU . . .
OH, SLIMIKKO . .
IF I SCREAM, THOUGH, I'LL JUST BRING MORE ATTENTION ON MYSELF
!?
OUCH . .
SLICE
Kick!
FORGET ABOUT "IZUMI-SAMA'S" STUPID BOX!
A RAZOR-BLADE!?
Gasp!

THE STUDENTS HERE ARE JUST ORDINARY GIRLS WHO HAPPEN TO HAVE RICH PARENTS.
I'M SURE THEY CAN BE JUST AS CRUEL AS ANYONE ELSE.
OF COURSE THINGS LIKE THIS ARE GONNA HAPPEN.
STUPID
DIE
THAT'S WHY IT'S SAFER NOT TO STAND OUT...
shake
shake

WOW, IT'S GETTING LATE!
I KNOW THE SCHOOL IS PRETTY FAR FROM TOWN, BUT...
...DOES SHE ALWAYS WORK THIS LATE?
Clack
shut
huff
THIS IS KIDO-SAN'S PROBLEM, NOT MINE
I WONDER IF I SHOULD ASK "IZUMI-SAMA" TO DO SOMETHING ABOUT HER GROUPIES..?
Um... but...
TRNG
TRNG
tic
tok
tic
tok

YOU'RE STILL UP?
OH... HEY.
...OH, NOTHING.
ZZZIP
WHAT'S UP? IS SOMETHING WRONG?
SHE LOOKS TIRED
WATCH OUT.
THERE'S A RAZOR-BLADE IN THERE!
LOTS OF GIFTS... AS USUAL
Home-made cookies this time...

HOW CAN SHE BE SMILING ABOUT IT...?
...
THANKS.
BUT I'M USED TO IT.
YOU GET HARASSED BY FANS...
...AND YOU WORK SO LATE, YOU'RE PALE AS A GHOST
WHY DO YOU WANT TO BE AN IDOL SO BADLY?
BECAUSE I HAVE A DREAM

I DECIDED A LONG TIME AGO THAT I WOULD MAKE ANY SACRIFICE NECESSARY TO MAKE IT COME TRUE.
I KNOW IT'S NONE OF MY BUSINESS.
AND I DON'T EVEN KNOW WHAT HER DREAM IS...
BUT FOR SOME REASON, I HOPE HER DREAM COMES TRUE

I must be dreaming! But I'm glad to see you, even if it's in a dream.
SUMIKKO IS TALKING TO ME!?
WHOA! WHAT'S WITH THESE CLOTHES!?
Hikarusan!
SUMIKKO
Eh!?
Hikarusan, let's go find the princess together!
Hikarusan, Hikarusan!!
HN?
PRINCESS?
"HN" princess?
We must find your princess!
Hikarusan, we can't waste any more time!
Whoever can fit this silicone perfectly...
_is the person you're destined to meet!

JOLT!
ばっ
IT WAS A DREAM
But what a dream!
DAMMIT! I OVER-SLEPT!!
Shuff
SHE'S MOANING...? I SHOULD PROBABLY JUST LEAVE HER ALONE, BUT...
UM... KIDO-SAN?
KIDO-SAN!?
SHE'S BURNING UP!

I'LL BE RIGHT BACK. I'M GOING TO CALL THE SCHOOL NURSE.
NO DOCTORS!
NO!
IT WOULD BE HEARTLESS TO JUST LEAVE HER ALONE
I have to do something...
YASU-KUN!?
WHAT DO YOU MEAN? BUT...
YASU-KUN!
PLEASE CALL YASUKUN!
HE SHOULD BE...
IN THE JANITOR'S ROOM
WHY DOES SHE NEED A JANITOR?
JANITOR?
SO MUCH SWEAT!

THEN BEFORE HE COMES OVER
...I'D BETTER CHANGE HER OUT OF THIS SWEATY SHIRT INTO SOMETHING FRESH
Click
THE JANITOR IS A MAN, RIGHT?
HUH?

.....
snap
snap
Roll..
UGH..
Gasp!
TOSS
KYAAA!
Jandan
Jandan
Jandan
Jandan
NOT EVEN AN A-CUP!
SHE COULDN'T BE...?
NO WAY!!
EH?
EH!?

Trouble
Trouble
Inside me
PLEASE COME TO ROOM 104 RIGHT AWAY!
JANITOR YASUKUNI-SAN!
Trouble
Trouble
Trouble
Wet pajamas

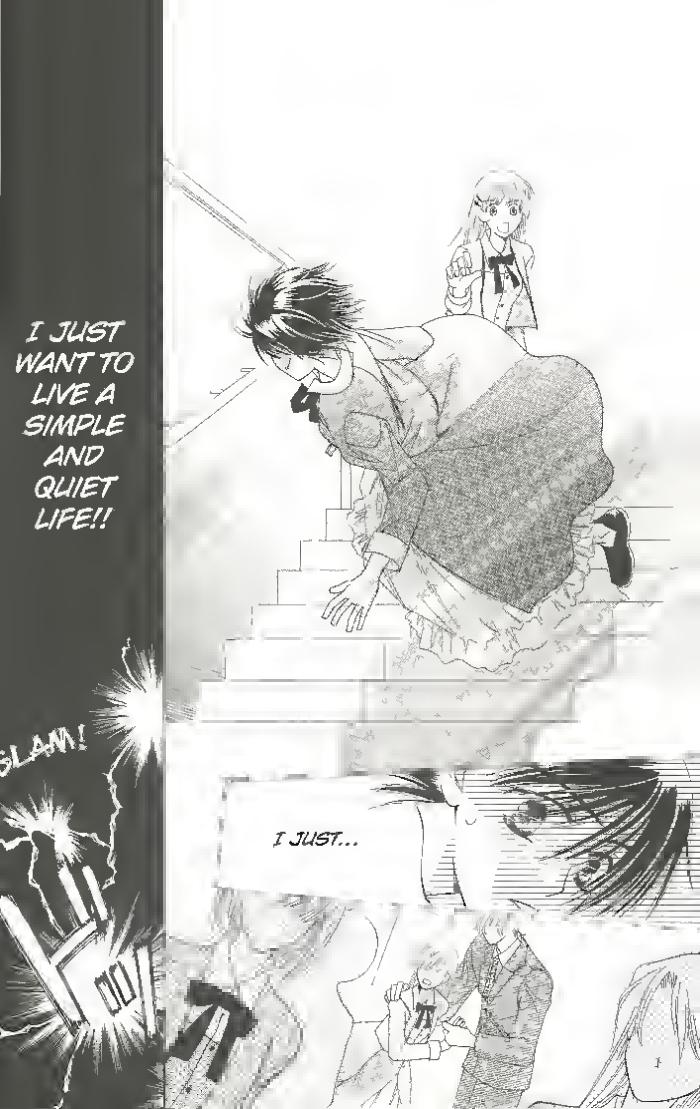
SLAM!

chatter
chatter
KACHA
sigh
CLACK
I CAN'T EAT...
TMP
KIDO-SAN IS..
POP IDOL KIDO-SAN IS—
...A GUY!?
A transvestite AI
HE DRESSES UP AS A WOMAN AND HE'S A FEMALE POP IDOL?
TAKA-BAYASHI-SAN!!
teeter
wobble
WHY IS A GUY GOING TO AN ALL-GIRLS' SCHOOL?

NOBODY WOULD BELIEVE ME IF I TOLD THEM. HECK, EVEN I CAN'T BELIEVE WHAT I SAW!
SO DO YOU HAVE ANY JUICY GOSSIP FOR US YET?
FINISHED WITH BREAKFAST ALREADY? THAT WAS FAST!
DING DONG
NEWS-PAPER GIRL!
COME ON, TAKABAYASHI-SAN HER FANS ARE WAITING FOR THE SCOOP!
C'mon!
SCREW THE FANS! I DON'T HAVE TIME FOR THIS RIGHT NOW!
mumble mumble
WELL, IF YOU DON'T HAVE ANYTHING FOR US, I'LL JUST GO UP TO YOUR ROOM AND SEE ABOUT INTERVIEWING HER DIRECTLY!
NO! YOU CAN'T!
GASP!
Silence...

WHAT, YOU THINK YOU SPEAK FOR IZUMI-SAMA NOW? DON'T BE SO CONCEITED!
I MEAN KIDO-SAN IS TIRED FROM WORK, SO...
SHE'D RATHER NOT BE BOTHERED RIGHT NOW.
THE ONLY REASON PEOPLE EVEN KNOW WHO YOU ARE IS BECAUSE YOU SHARE A ROOM WITH IZUMI-SAMA!
UH-OH! YOU NEED TO BE CAREFUL NOT TO MAKE THE IZUMI FANS YOUR ENEMIES.
SO YOU WANNA TAKE BACK WHAT YOU SAID ABOUT US "BOTHERING" HER!?
ONE THIRD OF THE STUDENTS HERE ARE IZUMI FANS
YOU WOULD BE BETTER OFF BEING ON THEIR SIDE, OKAY?
THEY ALL JUST WANT TO GET TO KNOW IZUMI-SAMA BETTER.
SHOULD I TELL THESE LOUSY PEOPLE THAT THEIR IZUMI SAMA IS ACTUALLY A MAN .?
Hey, why don't you say something?
I'M JUST PUTTING MYSELF IN TROUBLE.
I WONDER WHY I TRIED TO PROTECT HER. .?

JUST LEAVE ME ALONE...
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M SAYING THESE THINGS!
WHAT'S WRONG WITH ME?
BUT...
"I HAVE A DREAM."
IT'S NOT MY CONCERN.
HEY..! WHERE ARE YOU...? LOOK OUT!!


I JUST WANT TO LIVE A SIMPLE AND QUIET LIFE!!
SLAM!
I JUST...

SUMIKO...
NO MORE SILICONE...
NUH
AM I DREAMING AGAIN...?
MY HEAD HURTS...
SHURIL
?

I'M SORRY.
...BUT I HAVE TO DO THIS.
YOU SEEM LIKE A NICE ENOUGH GIRL.
FLASH!
beep beep beep

I FEEL LIKE I JUST HAD A NIGHT-MARE.
WHEN DID I CHANGE INTO MY PAJAMAS?
HUH?
EVER SINCE I CAME OUT THIS MORNING...
WHISP
PST!
...EVERYONE'S BEEN GIVING ME THE SILENT TREATMENT.
OH WELL.
.....
Sigh..
FOR SOME REASON...
I FEEL LIKE I'M STANDING OUT MORE THAN EVER.
AT LEAST THEY'RE LEAVING ME ALONE.

SWOOo
NOW I CAN LEAD A QUIET LIFE...
SHUT
104
CLACK
SHNK
GRAB
EEEK!!
Shing
WHA!?

YOU'RE GOING TO TRANSFER OUT OF THE ACADEMY...
WH... WHO IS THIS PERSON!?
!!
WAIT, YASUKUNI.
IZUMI-SAMA?
EVERYTHING'S UNDER CONTROL...
...AND IF YOU TELL ANYONE WHAT YOU SAW HERE, YOUR LIFE IS OVER
Fwip

End of Scene 1

TENSHI JA NAI!
天使じゃない!!
SCENE 2

To those who've known me for a while and those meeting me for the first time...

Konnichiwa! Thanks so much for picking up my book. If you're already familiar with my work, thanks for coming back. I hope to see you all again in the next volume!

If any of you are checking out this book in a store, the cashier is right over there. [laugh]

GULP
ALL RIGHT, HIKARU. WHAT WILL YOU DO NOW?
WILL YOU CRY? WILL YOU BLOW YOUR TOP AND ATTACK ME?
...THE REAL FACE OF IZUMI KIDO!?

DROP!
ぱさっ
!!
Huh?
BIG TIME BOW
I SAW NOTHING. I HEARD NOTHING.
I WILL DO WHATEVER YOU ASK, SO PLEASE DON'T SHOW THE PHOTO TO ANYONE.

THAT'S WHAT YOU WANTED, ISN'T IT?
STUPOR
WHA.
WHAT WAS UP WITH THAT WEAK-ASS RESPONSE!?
PERHAPS WE SHOULD BE CONCERNED THAT SHE'S PLANNING SOMETHING?
IZUMI-SAMA

rustle
rustle
rustle
HOW... HOW DID THIS HAPPEN?!
ALL I WANTED WAS A CHANCE TO LIVE A PEACEFUL, QUIET LIFE AT THIS SCHOOL, BUT NOOO...
I SHOULD REQUEST THAT THEY SWITCH MY ROOM
NO! MAYBE IT'S NOT TOO LATE FOR ME TO MOVE TO FRANCE TO BE WITH MY PARENTS...
Gasp!
BUT IF ANYONE SAW THAT PHOTO...
SCRATCH SCRATCH SCRATCH
THEY SAW ME NAKED WHILE I WAS SLEEPING!!

I SHOULD MAKE THE PHONE CALL... I SHOULD...BUT...
"MOM, MAY I QUIT SCHOOL AND COME AND JOIN YOU IN FRANCE?"
...MOM WOULD JUST TRY TO FIND OUT WHAT WAS GOING ON AND MAKE THINGS WORSE.
OH! THERE YOU ARE, HIKARU-SAN!
!?
I'VE BEEN LOOKING ALL OVER FOR YOU. I WANTED TO HAVE DINNER WITH YOU!
GYAA!
IZUMI-SAN!!

I HAVE TO GO NOW. I'LL SEE YOU LATER, OKAY?
DON'T GO, IZUMI-SAMA!!
WE WANTED TO HAVE DINNER WITH YOU, TOO! WE CAN TALK ABOUT YOUR NEW TV DRAMA SERIES!
That's right, Izumi-sama!!
GO AHEAD, "IZUMI-SAMA"!
twitch
twitch
PLEASE GO HAVE DINNER WITH THEM, PLEASE!!
I'M SORRY, BUT...
HIKARU-SAN IS MY ROOMMATE
I REALLY WANT TO GET TO KNOW HER BETTER. IN FACT, I'D LOVE TO STAY BY HER SIDE 24 HOURS A DAY!
SO I'M AFRAID I'LL HAVE TO TAKE A RAIN CHECK, 'KAY? ♡
YOU MEAN YOU WANT TO KEEP AN EYE ON ME 24 HOURS A DAY
GLARE
P-PLEASE DON'T LOOK AT ME LIKE THAT...

CHAPTER
CHAPTER
CHAPTER
CHAPTER
I'M SO GLAD THEY'RE SERVING CHINESE FOOD TODAY, AREN'T YOU? ♡
I JUST LOVE THE WAY THEY DO FRIED CHICKEN!
.....
CLONK
SO NOW HE'S WATCHING ME LIKE I'M HIS PRISONER.
You're really in the doghouse now!
CHAPTER
CHAPTER
CHAPTER

I BROUGHT THE NEW SCRIPT FOR YOU.
THANKS, YASU-KUNI.
Jitter
Jitter
IZUMI-SAMA.
Gyu-ri-ri
OH, HEY, YASU-KUNI.
OH! HOW RUDE OF ME. HIKARU-SAN, PLEASE LET ME INTRO-DUCE HIM TO YOU.
HUH ?
THIS IS YASUKUNI INUKAI.
HE'S MY MANAGER HE WORKS PART-TIME AS A JANITOR HERE SO HE CAN BE NEARBY.

THAT'S THE GUY WHO ATTACKED ME WITH A SWORD!!
GASP
YOU MAY CALL ME YASUKUNI
Hikaru's Translation
"YASUKUNI KEEPS THE MEMORY CARD FOR THE DIGITAL CAMERA...
..SO IF YOU TRY ANYTHING, GUESS WHOSE PICTURE WINDS UP ALL OVER THE INTERNET, HI-KA-RU!" ♡
YASUKUNI KEEPS MY IMPORTANT BELONGINGS.
EVEN IF I'M NOT AROUND, YASUKUNI WILL KEEP YOU COMPANY, SO YOU NEVER HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT BEING LONELY!
HE'S EVIL!!
TEE HEE HEE!
I REALLY ENJOYED HAVING DINNER WITH YOU!

IT'LL BE OKAY. HE'S FAST ASLEEP
I HAVE AN IDEA.
DAMMIT, I CAN'T SLEEP
CLICK
drip
drip
drip

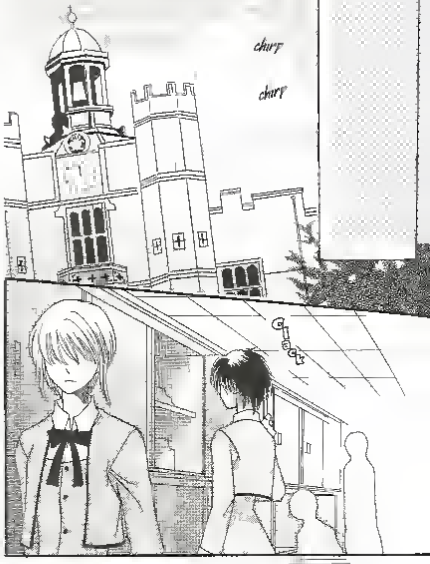
My Favorite Things these days.. Part 1

...Are definitely imported snacks!

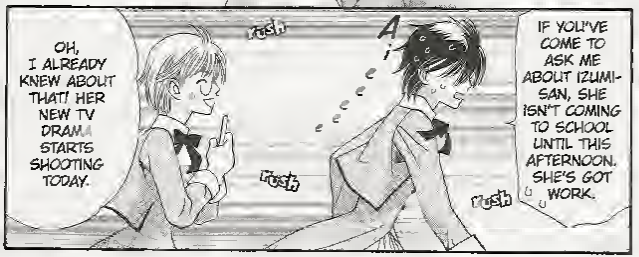
A friend of mine, "H," who works as my assistant, finds these snacks for me from somewhere. (Thank you!) "H" and I love orange-flavored snacks At the moment we are very much into Knusperli Super Crunch. The name of it is difficult to remember. It's an orange and yogurt flavored cereal. It's super good!

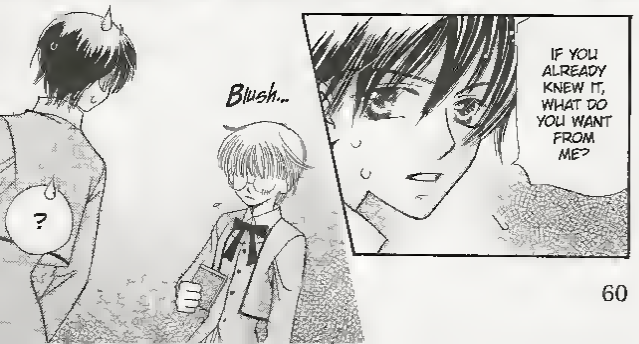
The cereal is made in Austria. Pour milk over it and it tastes the best while the cereal is still crunchy.

Apparently there are other flavors available, such as chocolate, white chocolate, banana, and strawberry.



YOU SHOULD HAVE EXPECTED WHAT?
GOOD MORNING!! IT'S YOUR FRIENDLY NEIGHBORHOOD MOMOCHI FROM THE SCHOOL PAPER!
IS SOMETHING WRONG?
OH, IT'S NOTHING..
WHA!?


IF YOU'VE COME TO ASK ME ABOUT IZUMI-SAN, SHE ISN'T COMING TO SCHOOL UNTIL THIS AFTERNOON. SHE'S GOT WORK.
OH, I ALREADY KNEW ABOUT THAT! HER NEW TV DRAMA STARTS SHOOTING TODAY.
Ai
Push
Push
Push


IF YOU ALREADY KNEW IT, WHAT DO YOU WANT FROM ME?
Blush...
?

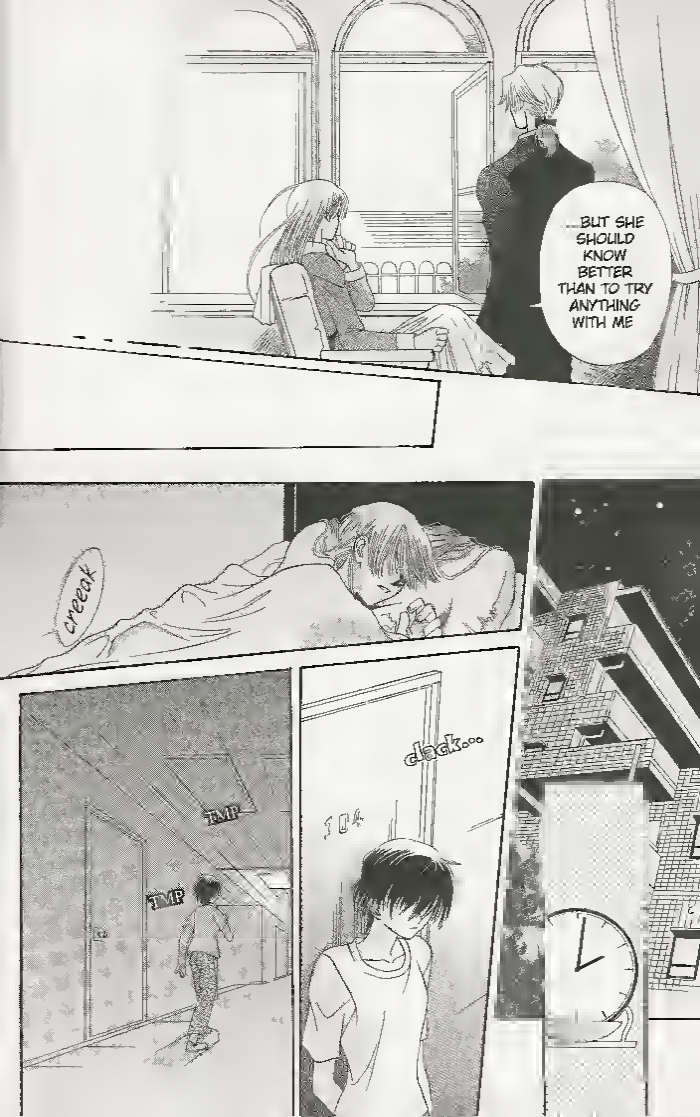
...I JUST WANTED TO APOLOGIZE TO YOU.
I KEPT FOLLOWING YOU AROUND ASKING ABOUT IZUMI-SAMA AND BECAUSE OF THAT, YOU'RE NOW ISOLATED AT SCHOOL.
NO. .IT WASN'T YOUR FAULT
DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT
TMP
TMP
TAKA-BAYASHI-SAN...
Cute...
HE'S THE ONE AT FAULT HERE!
hee hee

Hee hee hee.
clonk
Gasp!
SPLOOSH
Hop
clank
clank
THANKS TO HIM...
...I'M BEING PICKED ON MORE THAN EVER!

bo dum
bo dum
THAT WAS A CLOSE ONE! IF THE WATER HIT ME, I WOULD HAVE BEEN THE SCHOOL LAUGHING-STOCK ALL DAY
splash splash
AT LEAST I KNOW I'M IN THE RIGHT HERE. I DIDN'T DO ANY-THING TO DESERVE THIS
Not that that makes things any easier...
bo dum
bo dum
THAT WAS ABSOLUTELY AMAZING .!
sparkle sparkle
TAKABAYASHI-SAN... I SEE THAT YOU'RE NO ORDINARY PERSON!!
Why am I always drawn to people like her?

EXHAUSTED
NOPE. I'M FINE. ABSOLUTELY FINE.
1-A
UM, TAKABAYASHI-SAN?
CHAPTER
YOU LOOK EXHAUSTED LATELY. IS ANYTHING WRONG?
Ding Dong
BUT IF THIS IS AS BAD AS IT GETS, I CAN DEAL WITH IT.
STAGGER
STAGGER
...UNABLE TO SLEEP.
IT'S JUST THAT THESE PAST SEVERAL DAYS...
...I'VE BEEN STALKED BY MOMOCHI...
...AND BULLIED BY OTHER STUDENTS FOR NO REASON AT ALL!

IT APPEARS THAT SOME OF YOUR FANS HAVE BEEN BULLYING HIKARU TAKABAYASHI
BUT SHE DOESN'T SEEM TO BE THAT BOTHERED BY IT.
SOMETHING'S NOT RIGHT EVERY NIGHT SHE LEAVES THE ROOM JUST AS I'M FALLING ASLEEP___
...AND IN THE MORNING SHE SNEAKS BACK IN AS IF NOTHING HAPPENED
HM.. I WONDER WHAT SHE'S THINKING?
I WONDER IF SHE'S PLOTTING SOMETHING ...?
I HAVE NO IDEA...


...BUT SHE SHOULD KNOW BETTER THAN TO TRY ANYTHING WITH ME
creak
TMP
TMP
click...

I'M SO GLAD I FOUND THIS PLACE.
...AT THE EDGE OF THE CAMPUS GROUNDS.
I BET NOBODY EVEN REALIZES THAT THERE'S AN ABANDONED STORAGE SHED...
SHEAR SHEAR
MY ONLY OASIS FROM ALL THE CRAZINESS ON CAMPUS.
SHOO
WH... WHAT IN THE--!?
BAM
BAM
EEEP!!
BAM!
GOOD NIGHT, SUMIKKO

WHY DON'T YOU TELL ME WHAT THE HELL YOU'RE COOKING UP?
SHUDDER
MY OASIS!!
tremble
tremble
GYA AAA AAA!!
SLA

104
TELL ME WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON.
YOU HONESTLY EXPECT ME TO BELIEVE THAT YOU SNEAK OUT TO SLEEP IN A SHED!?
I'M ON TO YOU, HIKARU. YOU MIGHT AS WELL CONFESS.
...AND NOW THERE'S THIS BUSINESS WITH THE SHED.
THE GIRLS ON CAMPUS KEEP HARASSING YOU BUT YOU'VE DONE NOTHING ABOUT IT...
YASU-KUNI?
—BUT IF I MAY SPECULATE, I BELIEVE SHE'S BEEN SNEAKING OUT BECAUSE OF YOU.
EXCUSE ME FOR INTER-JECTING
...Keh.
CAN YOU BLAME ME FOR WANTING TO SLEEP IN A SHED!?

IT WAS A SHAMEFUL DECISION FOR THE HEAD OF THE KIDO FAMILY TO MAKE.
YOU TOOK OFF HER CLOTHES AND PHOTOGRAPHED HER NAKED.
OF COURSE SHE DOESN'T FEEL COMFORTABLE SLEEPING IN THE ROOM WITH YOU.
Hmph
HEY.
SORRY.

WHAT KIND OF REACTION IS THAT?
Gonk!
WHAT !?
WELL, IF YASUKUNI SAYS SO, IT HAS TO BE TRUE.
AFTER ALL, HE'S THE ONLY ONE I TRUST
Fume
Fume
Fume
THANKS A LOT FOR RUBBING IT IN!
EEEP!!
WELL... YOU DON'T SEEM LIKE SOMEONE WHO WOULD APOLOGIZE
Not in the least...
I WONDER WHAT THEIR REAL RELATIONSHIP IS...?
Click
THESE TWO
ALL RIGHT. THANK YOU!
IZUMI-SAMA, I'M LEAVING FOR PATROL.

HEY. TIE MY WRISTS WITH THIS.
H...HOW COME...?
THAT WAY YOU CAN BE SURE I WON'T TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES AGAIN.
YOU PROBABLY WOULDN'T BELIEVE ME IF I JUST *SAID* I WOULDN'T, RIGHT?

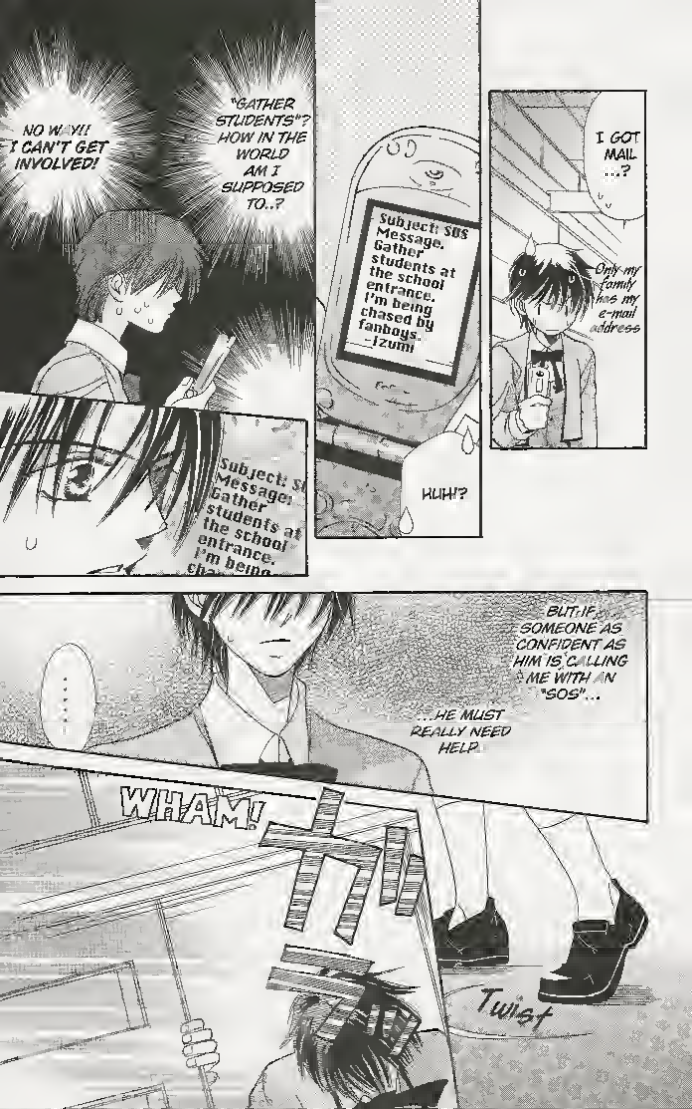
THIS WAY, YOU CAN SLEEP PEACEFULLY NOT WORRYING ABOUT IT
OH, DAMN! I STILL HAVE TO MEMORIZE MY SCRIPT!
YOU FLIP THE PAGES
Flop
Which Way is Tomorrow? Episode 1
I WONDER WHAT HE'S THINKING.
JUST A MINUTE AGO HE WAS THREATENING ME, BUT NOW HE'S APOLOGIZING...?
WHY DO YOU GO THROUGH SO MUCH TROUBLE, EVEN DRESSING AS A GIRL, JUST TO BE AN IDOL?
BECAUSE I NEED THE MONEY.

THE OTHER STUDENTS KEEP PICKING ON YOU AND YOU JUST STAND THERE AND TAKE IT. IT'S PAINFUL JUST WATCHING YOU.
I DON'T UNDER-STAND YOU.
MONEY?
I...I DON'T UNDER-STAND.
I HAD A BAD EXPERIENCE STANDING OUT AT SCHOOL...
...WHEN I WAS YOUNGER.
THIS ONE TIME I MODELED FOR A COMMERCIAL...
...AND AFTERWARDS, MY CLASSMATES TEASED ME AND BEAT ME UP OUT OF JEALOUSY.
THAT'S WHY...
THAT'S WHY YOU PRETEND AS IF YOU DON'T EVEN EXIST?

IF THAT'S YOUR IDEA OF LIVING, YOU MIGHT AS WELL BE DEAD.
YOU'RE JUST RUNNING AWAY FROM REALITY.
SOMEONE STRONG LIKE YOU COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND
Rise
Zzzip
HE COULD NEVER UNDERSTAND
WHAT I HAD TO GO THROUGH

Clack...
YAWN
W.C
HM? HE ALREADY LEFT FOR WORK... EVEN THOUGH IT'S ONLY 6:00 A.M. ON A SATURDAY MORNING
Flush
Shaaaa
chirp chirp
AH!
THAT'S RIGHT. HE WAS STILL UP READING HIS SCRIPT WHEN I WENT TO SLEEP
I BET IT WAS DIFFICULT TRYING TO READ THE SCRIPT WITH HIS WRISTS TIED UP.

NOT THAT I REALLY CARE...
WHAT TYPE OF ROLE WILL YOU BE PLAYING THIS TIME, IZUMI-CHAN?
I'LL BE PLAYING THE SISTER OF THE MAIN CHARACTER.
I wish I had a sister like her!
Tee hee!
chatter
chatter
chatter
REC ROOM
BALANCING WORK AND SCHOOL... IT'S A WONDER HE GETS ANY SLEEP AT ALL.
THAT MUST BE WHY HE GOT SICK THE OTHER DAY. POOR GUY..
Dammit!
NO, NO! I REALLY DON'T CARE ABOUT HIM!
THE ONLY REASON I'M THINKING ABOUT IT IS BECAUSE I'M BORED!
BZZT


I GOT MAIL ...?
Only my family has my e-mail address
Subject: SOS Message. Gather students at the school entrance. I'm being chased by fanboys. -Izumi
HUH!?
"GATHER STUDENTS"? HOW IN THE WORLD AM I SUPPOSED TO..?
NO WAY!! I CAN'T GET INVOLVED!
Subject: S Message: Gather students at the school entrance. I'm being
BUT IF SOMEONE AS CONFIDENT AS HIM IS CALLING ME WITH AN "SOS"...
...HE MUST REALLY NEED HELP.
.....
WHAM!
Twist

PLEASE HELP HER!!
IZUMI-SAN IS IN TROUBLE AT THE MAIN ENTRANCE! SHE'S BEING MOBBED BY HER FANS!
Silence...
MISSION ACCOMPLISHED, SIR
Salute!
GOOD LUCK, EVERYONE
LET'S GO, EVERYONE!!
dash
dash
dash
IZUMI-SAMA!? SHE'S IN TROUBLE!?
WHAT?
chatter
MOMO-CHI? Where'd you come from...?
chatter

NO!!
WHAT ARE YOU STANDING AROUND FOR? YOU HAVE TO COME WITH US!!
She escaped from Monochi
We're definitely don't want to be involved
Wah!
Eeek!
Clack
STOP IT. WE WON'T LET YOU HAVE IZUMI-SAMA!
clack
IZUMI-CHAN!
clank
Wah!
clank
LET US SEE IZUMI-CHAN!
HIKARU!!
I KNOW! I'LL ESCAPE TO THE HILL BEHIND THE SCHOOL WHILE NOBODY IS LOOKING...
sneak
sneak

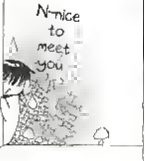
I TOLD YOU TO COME TO THE MAIN ENTRANCE.
WHAT ARE YOU DOING HERE?
Jeez!
IZUMI-SAN!!
SLAM!
DASH!
Grrrr!
YOU DAMN COWARD!
Oof!
DON'T YOU DARE RUN AWAY!
ACK!! IZUMI-SAMA!!
IZUMI-CHAN!!
IZUMI-SAMA'S OVER THERE!!
Hey!
Look!
Geez!
CRAP! THEY SAW ME!!

WHA... WHAT AM I DOING!?
Izumi-chan!
HIKARU, LET'S GET OUT OF HERE!
DASH!
HUH--!?
JUST AS I THOUGHT! TAKABAYASHI-SAN IS NO ORDINARY PERSON!!
CLICK
CLICK
CLICK

stomp stomp
stomp
Eep!
—BECAUSE IZUMI-SAMA WAS SUFFERING FROM HIGH FEVER.
YESTERDAY TAKABAYASHI-SAN STOPPED YOU FROM GOING TO IZUMI-SAMA'S ROOM.—
Gasp!
WHO ARE YOU!?
LOOKS LIKE SHE SAVED IZUMI-SAMA AGAIN
TA-DAH!
Seika Times
Izumi-sama's Knight in Shining Armor
Takabayashi Risaa Leaves no Stone Unturned to Protect Her Princess!
The Next Day
chatter chatter
Oh?
chatter
sob sob sob
How stupid can I be!? Stupid! Stupid!
WHY!?
On the hill behind the school

Akizuki Agency
I HAD A FEELING THAT NEWSPAPER ARTICLE....
...WOULD CAUSE MORE TROUBLE FOR ME...
...BUT I DIDN'T KNOW THE HALF OF IT!
LOOKS LIKE YOU'RE IN A SPOT OF TROUBLE, IZUMI-KUN.
I HEARD THAT YOUR ROOMMATE HERE FOUND OUT ABOUT YOUR SECRET.
Seika Times
WHAT ARE YOU TRYING TO SAY...
...BOSS?
YOU REMEMBER OUR PROMISE, DON'T YOU? THAT YOU WOULD QUIT YOUR JOB IF ANYONE FOUND OUT?
End of Scene 2

whisper
LOOK! THAT'S HER!
whisper
The girl from the newspaper!
THANKS TO MOMOCHI'S FRONT PAGE ARTICLE...
Izumi-sama's Knight in Shining Armor
Fukuboyashi Faces Fearsome Mob to protect her Prin
WHAT HAVE I DONE TO MYSELF!?
...I STAND OUT MORE THAN EVER!!
I JUST WON'T LEAVE MY ROOM UNTIL THINGS CALM DOWN
AT LEAST YOU UNDERSTAND ME, SUMIKKO
Terrified Sumikko
MAYBE WHEN THIS BLOWS OVER, I CAN FINALLY SETTLE INTO--
drip
drop



Hikaru Takabayashi (15 years old)
Birthday: January 1
Blood type: A
Mushroom-type. Extroverted and a little weird. Kind of like something that grew out of overly moist soil--like a rare type of mushroom. Give some fresh air, and some light, and hopefully she can grow out of her mushroom-ness

天使じゃない!!
SCENE 3
TENSHI JA NAI!

Edogawa Hot Spring
WHY EXACTLY AM I HERE?
NOW...
♪ OH, HELLO! YOU MUST BE HIKARU TAKABAYASHI-CHAN.
YASUKUN! COULDN'T GET OUT OF HIS JANITOR DUTIES, SO I ASKED YOU, MY BEST FRIEND, TO HELP OUT RIGHT?
GRIN
Eeep!
HE HE'S NOT LISTENING TO ME AT ALL!
BECAUSE TODAY IS THE "IZUMI-CHAN'S EDOGAWA HOT SPRINGS VACATION" PHOTO SHOOT! ♡
Duh.
You missed my point

Er... Um...
IT'S SO VERY NICE TO MEET YOU! CAN I CALL YOU HIKARU-CHAN?
shake shake
You can call me Yu-chan.
I'VE HEARD ALL ABOUT YOU FROM IZUMI-CHAN.
"I HEAR THAT YOUR ROOMMATE FOUND OUT ABOUT YOUR SECRET"
Ciao!
HOW DO YOU DO? MY NAME IS YUICHI AKIZUKI.
I'M PRESIDENT OF THE AKIZUKI TALENT AGENCY. WE REPRESENT IZUMI-CHAN
YOU REMEMBER OUR PROMISE, DON'T YOU? THAT YOU WOULD QUIT YOUR JOB IF ANYONE FOUND OUT?

NO! OF COURSE I--
YASUKUNI! YOU DIDN'T TELL HIM, DID YOU!?
HOW DID YOU FIND OUT ABOUT THAT!?
HOW DID YOU--
!!
I HAVE MY SOURCES.
Gasp!
WE'RE ACCOMPLICES, AREN'T WE?
YOU BAD LITTLE BOY. YOU KNOW YOU CAN'T KEEP SECRETS FROM ME.
I'M GLAD I HAD YOUR PRINCIPAL SEND ME THE SCHOOL NEWSPAPER EVERY MONTH.
I DON'T NEED A SPY TO FIGURE IT OUT. YOU WOULDN'T LET ANYONE CARRY YOU LIKE THIS...
...LEST THEY FIND OUT YOU'RE A MAN— UNLESS THEY ALREADY KNEW
YOU'VE BEEN SPYING ON ME!?
Fwap

SINCE IT SEEMS YOU DIDN'T INTEND TO TELL ME ABOUT THIS, YOU MUST THINK YOU HAVE THINGS UNDER CONTROL?
SO, IZUMI-CHAN.
BESIDES, I KNOW YOU CAN'T AFFORD TO FIRE ME RIGHT NOW.
THERE WON'T BE ANY PROBLEMS
"AND I KNOW JUST THE PLACE FOR YOU TO SHOW ME HER LOYALTY..."
PRESIDENT AKIZUKI, WE KNOW HER WEAKNESSES. SHE WOULDN'T DARE TELL ANYONE.
WHEN YOU TAKE ON UNNECESSARY RISK LIKE THIS, IT BECOMES MY RISK.
IN THAT CASE, I WOULD LIKE FOR YOU TO PROVE IT

HE'S JUST USING THIS TO FORCE ME INTO THIS STUPID ASSIGNMENT!
bustle
bustle
Lean...
YOU SHOULD BE SMILING, PRINCESS.
YOU'RE A PRO-- NOW DO YOUR JOB.
OF COURSE! I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH YOU GUYS TODAY!
IZUMI-CHAN, IF YOU COULD GET CHANGED, WE'RE READY TO START THE SHOOT.
YOU BASTARD!
Grrr
YES, BOSS.

THAM
I HAVE TO GET OUT OF HERE!!
Gasp!
OUCH!
BAH!
WHA.. WHAT ARE YOU TALKING ABOUT!? YOU'RE THE ONE WHO TIED ME----
WHAT ARE YOU DOING DOWN THERE?
WAAH!
clatter
AN ON-LOCATION PHOTO SHOOT?
"IZUMI-CHAN'S HOT SPRINGS VACATION" !?

THE IDEA OF THIS PHOTO SPREAD IS THAT I'M ON A HOT SPRINGS VACATION WITH MY FRIEND.
A-ANYWAY, WHEN ARE YOU GOING TO UNTIE ME?
HE... HE'S NAKED!? WHY IS HE NAKED!?
...THEY WANT YOU TO BE IN THE SHOOT.
THAT MEANS...
S...SO THAT MEANS---
STOMP
PLEASE FORGIVE ME!
squirm
squirm
WHERE DO YOU THINK YOU'RE GOING!?
ROLL
ROLL
HELL NO!
SOB SOB SOB
.....!!!
AH! HEY!!

I WILL, TOO. HOW ELSE DO YOU THINK I'D HIDE MY SILICONES?
IT MUST NOT BE EASY FOR YOU...
Slip
RELAX. NO ONE WANTS TO LOOK AT YOU. THEY'LL FRAME THE SHOTS SO ONLY YOUR BACK GETS IN THE PICTURE.
BESIDES, YOU GET TO WEAR A BATHING SUIT UNDER THE TOWEL.
TELL ME ABOUT IT. THAT'S WHY I ALWAYS REFUSED TO DO JOBS LIKE THIS
Sigh
BUT THIS TIME, I HAD NO CHOICE.
I CAN KEEP MY DISTANCE FROM THE CREW...
...BUT I COULD NEVER FOOL SOMEONE SITTING RIGHT NEXT TO ME IN THE BATH
LOOK. I NEED YOU TO HELP ME. THERE'S NO OTHER WAY TO PULL THIS OFF!

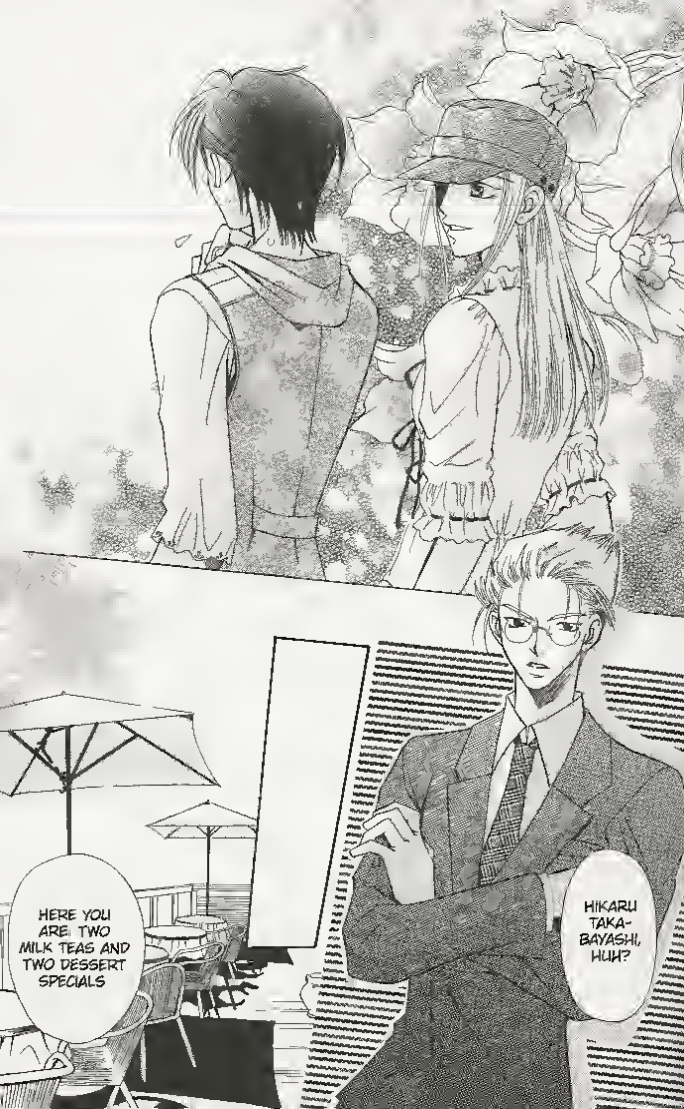
I'M NOT ABOUT TO LET THIS SHOOT...
...RUIN EVERYTHING THAT I'VE WORKED FOR.
IZUMI-SAN...
HUH?
SO FOR YOUR OWN SAKE, YOU DAMN WELL BETTER GIVE IT YOUR BEST.
DOOM
I CAN ALREADY SEE THE HEADLINES-- "HIGH SCHOOL HUSSY DOES THE NASTY WITH IZUMI-CHAN"...
AFTER ALL, IF IT WERE TO COME OUT THAT YOU'VE BEEN SHARING A ROOM WITH A MAN, PAPARAZZI WOULD BE ALL OVER THE STORY.
stride stride stride

I HAVE TO HELP IZUMI-SAN KEEP HER COVER.
At least for now
THAT'S GREAT, IZUMI-CHAN! JUST LIKE THAT
slurb slurb
BUT WHAT AM I SUPPOSED TO DO?
BLUSH
L...LOOK AT HOW SEXY HE IS...

I'M READY TO GO NOW COULD YOU BRING ME MY TOWEL?
HIKARU
..THAT THOSE ARE SILICONE BOOBS"
THAT PHOTOGRAPHER OR SOMEONE READING THE MAGAZINE WOULD NEVER GUESS
THANK YOU
Sheep
HERE
SPLISH
OH, BY THE WAY...
W..WELL AT LEAST THE HOT SPRING SHOOT IS OUT OF THE WAY
And no one got suspicious of Izumi, either
Head
Pat
FOR THE NEXT SCENE, WE'RE GOING TO A CAFE, SO PLEASE PUT ON THE CLOTHES THE STYLIST PREPARED FOR YOU.
BECAUSE I WOULDN'T BE CAUGHT DEAD SITTING NEXT TO YOU IN YOUR USUAL ATTIRE.

ALL RIGHT, I WANT THE TWO OF YOU TO JUST ACT NATURALLY.
WE'RE COMING BACK FOR ANOTHER SHOOT IN THE HOT SPRINGS LATER.
Hikaru in Zombie Mode

AKIZUKI-SAN, THIS FRIEND OF IZUMI-CHAN'S...
ARE YOU SURE SHE ISN'T ONE OF YOUR UP-AND-COMING IDOLS?
NOT AT ALL. SHE'S JUST IZUMI'S ROOMMATE
IS THAT SO? I THINK SHE HAS POTENTIAL.
I MEAN IT.
SHE'S AS PRETTY AS IZUMI-CHAN NEXT TO HER.
CLICK
HEY! KEEP YOUR CAMERA POINTED AT MY IZUMI!
Ha ha ha!
YES, OF COURSE.
I CAN'T QUITE PUT MY FINGER ON IT, BUT IZUMI-CHAN SEEMS MUCH MORE NATURAL AND MORE RELAXED WITH HER FRIEND NEXT TO HER.


HIKARU TAKA-BAYASHI, HUH?
HERE YOU ARE. TWO MILK TEAS AND TWO DESSERT SPECIALS

HEY, WHY ARE YOU ACTING LIKE THAT?
jitter jitter
UM.. IT'S JUST...
THERE'S NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT THEY CAN'T HEAR US FROM THIS DISTANCE
WELL, THERE'S THAT, TOO..
...IT'S JUST, I'VE NEVER SAT DOWN IN A CAFE WITH A FRIEND LIKE THIS BEFORE..
...SO I DON'T REALLY KNOW HOW TO ACT.
HUH!?
WHAT AM I SAYING!?

IT'S NOT AS IF I'M REALLY FRIENDS WITH IZUMI-SAN.
HE'S PROBABLY JUST GOING TO MAKE FUN OF ME AGAIN.
SO WHAT DO YOU LIKE TO DO?
SO YOU'RE SAYING YOU'VE NEVER GONE OUT SHOPPING OR GONE TO A CAFE WITH YOUR FRIENDS BEFORE?
PLEASE TELL ME THERE'S SOMETHING YOU ENJOY.
YOU DO HAVE SOME JOY IN YOUR LIFE, RIGHT?
Hmph!
WELL... THERE IS MY FAVORITE THING IN THE WHOLE WORLD...
SUMIKKO!
Sumikko...?
THIS FELLA
YOU HAVE A PICTURE OF YOUR DOG ON YOUR CELL PHONE?
HE MAY LOOK LIKE JUST A DOG TO OTHER PEOPLE...
...BUT HE'S VERY SPECIAL TO ME.

WHEN MY CLASSMATES USED TO HARASS ME AND I HATED MY LIFE..
...SUMIKKO WAS ALWAYS THERE FOR ME.
IT'S BECAUSE I HAVE HIM... THAT I CAN GET THROUGH LIFE.
FOR ME...
FOR OTHER PEOPLE IT MAY HAVE BEEN NOT A BIG DEAL, BUT..
hee hee
YOU HAVE WHIPPED CREAM ON YOUR FACE.

BLUSH
LICK
..UH..
Gasp!
GOOD OKAY!
WAY TO IMPROVISE, IZUMI-CHAN! THAT WAS A GREAT SHOT!!
chatter chatter
OKAY, FOR OUR NEXT SETUP...
I TOTALLY FORGOT THAT WE WERE ON THE PHOTO SHOOT!

I'LL SEE YOU OUT THERE. HURRY UP AND CHANGE.
UM... SURE.
THIS IS THE FINAL PHOTO SHOOT I HAVE TO DO MY BEST
Not that I ve a choice..
Phew...
THIS TIME, THE CREW WILL BE CLOSER TO US, SO WE'LL HAVE TO BE DOUBLY ON OUR GUARD.
A MESSAGE FROM MY BROTHER?
!?
BZZT
FWUMP
UH...

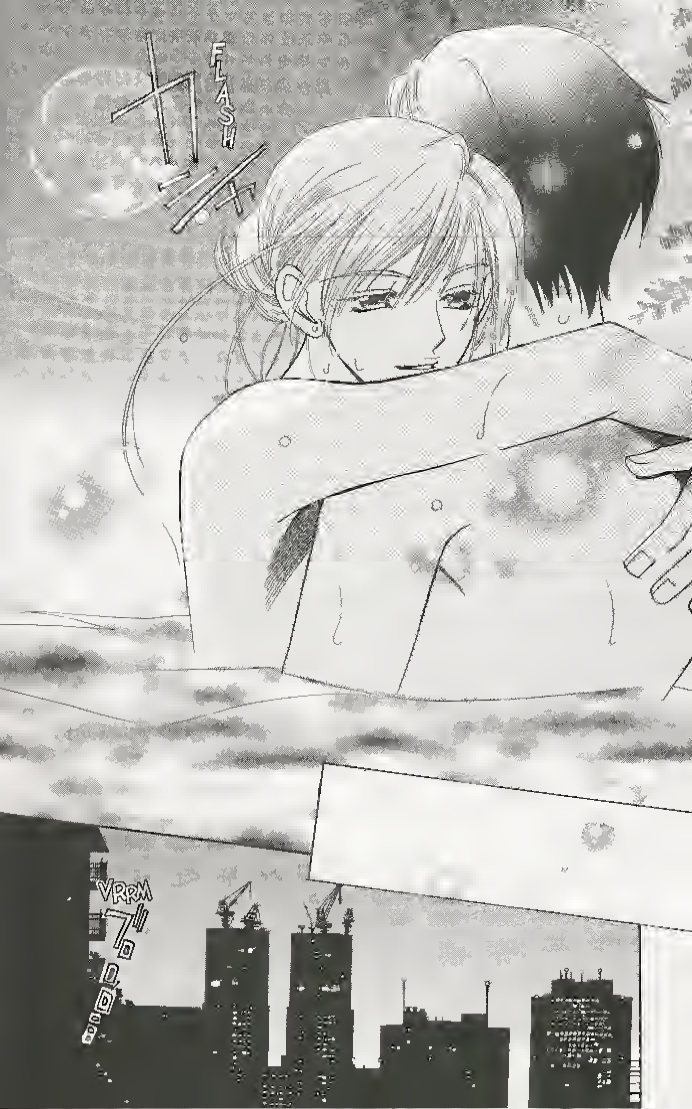
Subject: Sumikko
Message: Sumikko is missing. I'm looking for him but
SUMIKKO IS MISSING!?
TAKABAYASHI-SAN, ARE YOU READY? IZUMI-CHAN IS WAITING FOR YOU. PLEASE HURRY!
WHAT DO I DO!?
DA-DUM
OH, NO...
IF SOMETHING WERE TO HAPPEN TO SUMIKKO --!!
DA-DUM

KER SPLASH
HIKARU!!
HIKARU?
IF SUMIKKO WERE IN DANGER, I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'D DO''
Slip
WATCH OUT!!

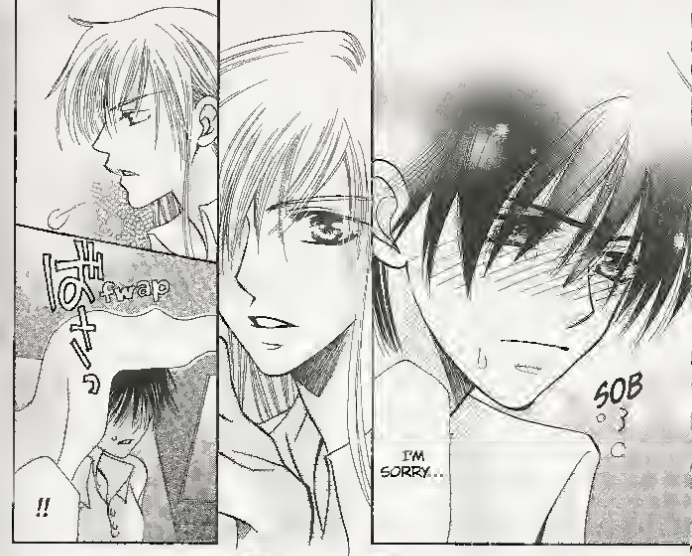
TH... THAT'S...
...IZUMI-SAN'S TOWEL!?
!
splish
...OUCH.
FLOAT
?

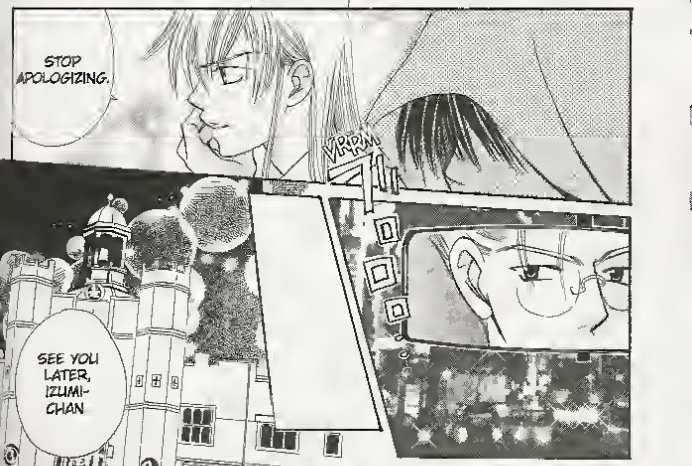
OH, NO!!
THEY'LL FIND OUT!!
WHAT SHOULD I DO!?
I HAVE TO HELP!
BUT WHAT CAN I --!?
GRAB
THIS IS ALL MY FAULT!!

IZLIMI-
SA...
Gasp!
FLASH!
FLASH!
FLASH!


FLASH
VRRM
VRRM

ANYWAY, I THINK IT WENT WELL.
I MUST ADMIT, THOUGH, I WAS A WEE BIT NERVOUS THERE AT THE END..
...I'M SORRY.
HEY.
WHAT HAPPENED WITH YOU BACK THEN?
SUMIKKO...
MY BROTHER SENT ME A MESSAGE THAT SUMIKKO IS MISSING
SUMIKKO...
WHAT DO I DO?


SOB
I'M SORRY...
fwap
!!

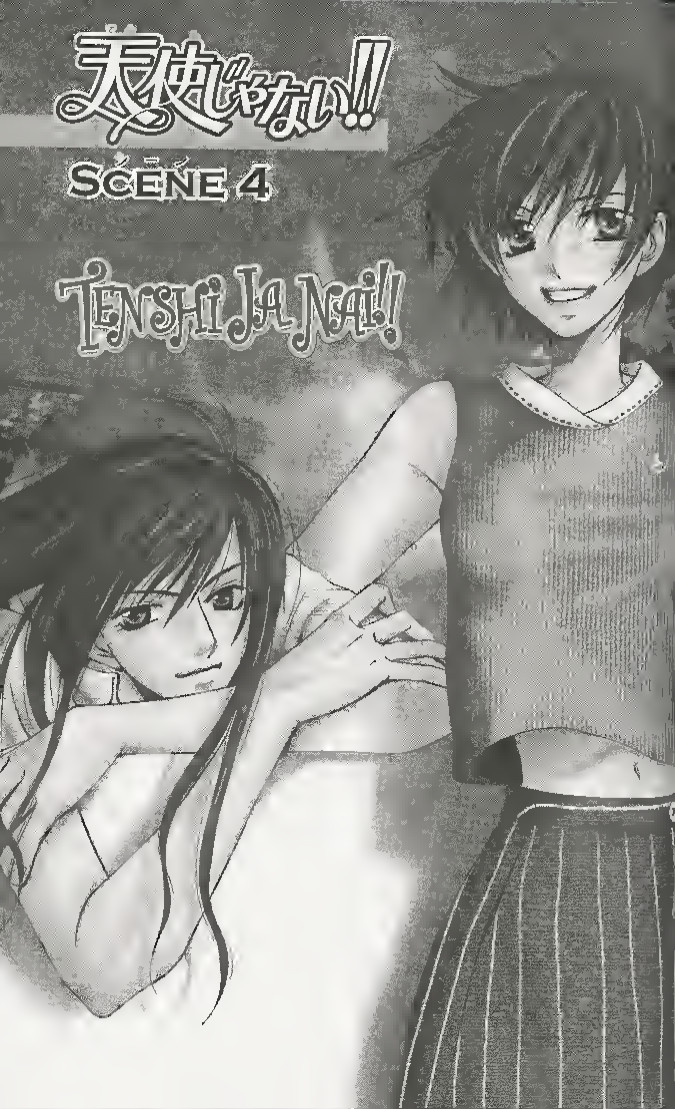

STOP APOLOGIZING.
VRRM
SEE YOU LATER, IZUMI-CHAN

YASU-KUNI
WELCOME BACK.
VROOM
?
WHAT IS THAT? It's filthy.
OH, HIM? HE'S A STRAY I PICKED UP NEAR THE SCHOOL.
Arf!
SUMIKKO

HUG
I THOUGHT HE WAS A TANUKI. I WAS GOING TO LET HIM GO ON THE HILL BEHIND CAMPUS.
THAT'S HIKARU'S DOG...?
SUMIKKO, YOU DUMMY!
I TOLD YOU NOT TO GO OUTSIDE BY YOURSELF, YOU DUMB MUTT!!
sniffle sniffle
I'M SO GLAD YOU'RE OKAY.
I'M TIRED
I'M GOING TO SLEEP
HUH...?
IZUMI-SAMA!?
I GUESS WE HAVE NO CHOICE, YASUKUN!
TELL THEM HE'S YOUR DOG AND ASK THEM TO LET YOU KEEP HIM AT SCHOOL.

GEH?
AH WAIT UP!!
BOW
ペコリ
THANK YOU.
UM..
IZUMI-SAN..
gaze..
WHATEVER... IT'S NO BIG DEAL.

End of Scene 3


天使じゃない!!
SCÉNE 4
TENSHI JA NAI!

Izumi Kido (Age 15)
Birthday April 1
Blood type. B
Idol-type
He lives a double life. Sexual preference is unknown. He has beautiful looks and a strong personality. Hardly opens up to anyone. He may hurt you if you're not careful.

HUH?
GRAB!
EH!?
NOOO!!
VROOM
Bow Wow!
Aau?
Dash!
!!
EH...? EH!?
stride
Yummy yummy. Just kidding.
RIGHT. LET'S GO.
Itadakumasu! (Let's eat)
stride
H-HOLD ON! AKIZUKI-SAN!?

Tch!
WHAT A SHAME...
WE'RE HERE.
BAH!
はっ
I'M TOO LATE!

THE HOSPITAL...?
tmp
tmp
UM... AKIZUKI-SAN?
tmp
tmp
HIKARU-CHAN, DO YOU KNOW WHY IZUMI WORKS AS AN IDOL?
MN?
WHAT ARE WE DOING AT THE HOSPITAL? I DON'T HAVE ANY HEALTH PROBLEMS...

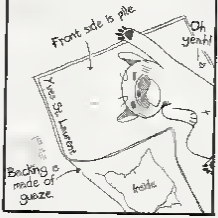
YES, BUT WHAT DOES HE NEED THE MONEY FOR?
WHY IS HE...? WHY NOW...?
HE TOLD ME HE NEEDED THE MONEY...
THE PATIENT IN THIS ROOM IS...
IF HE TELLS ME, I'LL BE EVEN MORE INVOLVED IN ALL THIS!
NO, NO, NO! I DON'T WANT TO HEAR IT!
...IS--
HIKARU-CHAN?

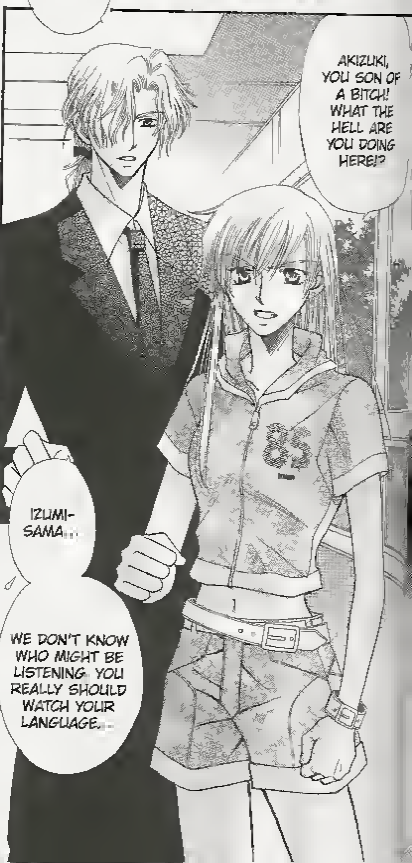
My Favorite Things Part 2

Lately--no, for a while now--

I've been crazy about my pile blanket!

Actually, I would love to have pile sheets and pile pillow cases. But...[sob] because my pile blanket is getting worn out on the gauze side, the fibers are starting to fall out. This is my favorite blanket and I'm afraid of buying a new one. If I can, I want to replace it with exactly the same model. That's my plan...





I FIGURED IT WOULD BE BETTER TO LET HIKARU-CHAN KNOW THE TRUTH. SHE COULD PROVE VERY USEFUL.
IF WE HAVE A WOMAN TO HELP US, WE CAN BRANCH OUT OUR WORK AND--
Gasp!
IZUMI-SAN!
WHA--
Grab
pst
WHETHER THROUGH SYMPATHY OR BLACK-MAIL, YOU HAVE TO TAKE ADVANTAGE OF WHOMEVER FATE THROWS AT YOU.
PRIDE ALONE WON'T PAY THE BILLS, YOU KNOW.
MIND YOUR OWN BUSINESS

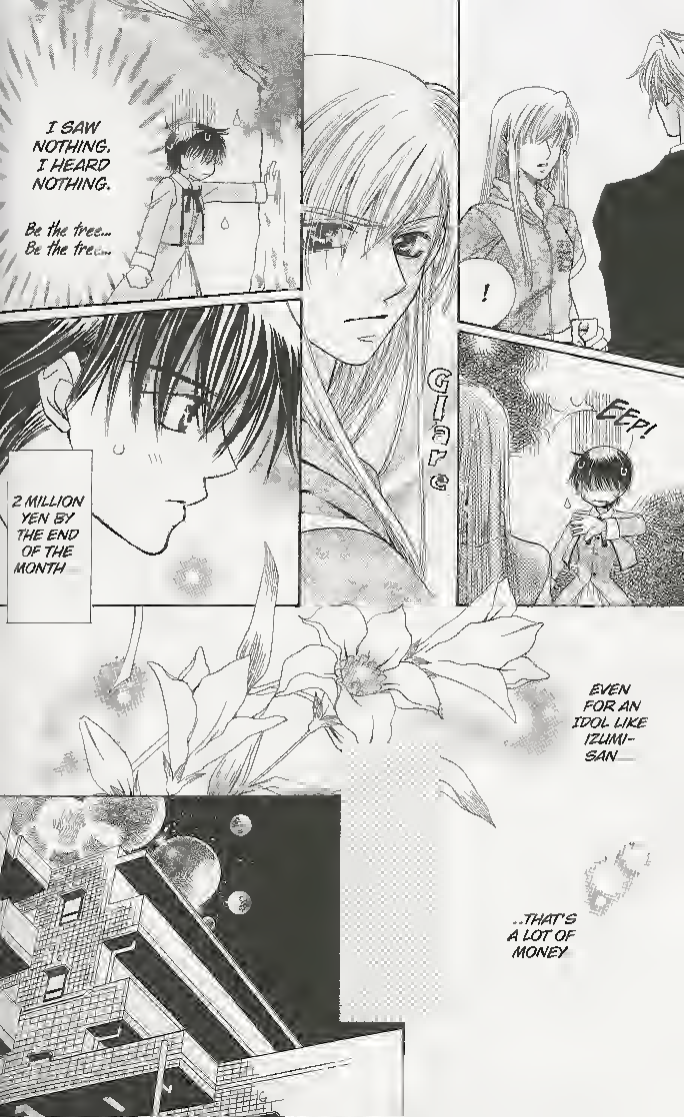
BESIDES...
WOULDN'T YOU LIKE TO GIVE GOOD OL' YASUKUNI-KUN A BREAK EVERY ONCE IN A WHILE?
?
WELL, MY BUSINESS HERE IS DONE.
GET BACK TO ME, 'KAY?
OH, YOU'RE HERE, KIDO-SAN.
DOCTOR -
EXCELLENT TIMING DO YOU HAVE A MINUTE?
IZUMI-SAMA..?

YASUKUNI, PLEASE GO AHEAD WITH HIKARU
YES...
IZUMI-SAN SEEMS UPSET...
ANYWAY...
...I WONDER WHO THAT WAS IN THE ROOM?
trudge
trudge
I don't really want to know, but it bothers me...
WHY DIDN'T YOU LISTEN TO WHAT AKIZUKI HAD TO SAY?
HUH?

PERHAPS YOU WERE TRYING TO FIND OUT OUR WEAKNESSES FROM AKIYAMA-SAN?
...IF I FOUND OUT YOUR WEAKNESSES, WOULD YOU LEAVE ME ALONE?
NO! I JUST WANT AWAY FROM YOU PEOPLE!
I'VE BEEN WONDERING FOR A WHILE NOW.
WE'VE THREATENED YOU AND MANIPULATED YOU AND YOU HAVEN'T DONE A THING ABOUT IT
?
I'D RATHER BE A STAGEHAND...
...THEN KNOW THE TRUTH AND BE 100% INVOLVED WITH YOUR CRAZY DRAMA.
sob sob
Then why did you even bother to ask!?
I'M GLAD I REFUSED TO HEAR WHAT AKIZUKI HAD TO SAY.
NO, WE WOULDN'T.
AND IF YOU REFUSE TO HELP US — WELL, THEN THE NEXT TIME I UNSHEATH THIS SWORD, I WILL NOT MISS

NO ONE WOULD PAY ATTENTION TO ME AND I WOULDN'T STAND OUT.
A TREE ...?
NO... IT'S NOT THAT I WANT TO BE A STAGE HAND.
And I never said it was my "goal."
A STAGE-HAND, HM? YOU HAVE VERY STRANGE GOALS.
IF I WERE IN A PLAY I WOULD RATHER PLAY A TREE THAN PULL THE ROPES BACK-STAGE...
THE TREE MAY NOT GET PEOPLE'S ATTENTION.
...BUT WITHOUT THE "TREE," THE PLAY MAY NOT BE ABLE TO GO ON.

2,000 000 yen = approx. $ 20 000 U.S


I SAW NOTHING, I HEARD NOTHING.
Be the tree... Be the tree...
2 MILLION YEN BY THE END OF THE MONTH
Gasp
!
EEP!
EVEN FOR AN IDOL LIKE IZUMI-SAN
...THAT'S A LOT OF MONEY

tap
tap
tap
tap
tap
stretch
stretch
HE'S UNDER A LOT OF STRESS...
Tap Tap
...BUT WHY AM I WORRIED ABOUT IT? IT'S NOT MY PROBLEM.
BESIDES, EVEN IF I TRIED TO OFFER MY SUPPORT...
...IZUMI-SAN WOULD JUST GET MAD AT ME. HE HAS SO MUCH PRIDE.

IT REALLY ISN'T..
ANY OF MY CONCERN.
NOT MY CONCERN..
OH, NO. I'M FINE. THANK YOU.
KIDO-SAN, WHY DON'T YOU GO SEE THE SCHOOL NURSE? YOU DON'T LOOK WELL
TELL ME ABOUT IT! SHE'S ALWAYS SO UPBEAT.
IZUMI-SAMA LOOKS AS BEAUTIFUL AS ALWAYS ♡
I GOT WORRIED WHEN I HEARD THAT SHE MAY NOT BE FEELING WELL.
IT'S SUCH A RELIEF TO SEE THAT SHE'S OKAY!

WHAT AM I DOING? I SAID IT'S NOT MY CONCERN!
EXCUSE ME, TAKABAYASHI-SAN!
HUH...!?
UM... I MADE A LUNCH FOR IZUMI-SAMA.
COULD YOU DELIVER IT TO HER FOR ME?
SU.. SURE..

IT'S NOT LIKE I'M GOING TO CHECK AND SEE IF HE'S OKAY...
THIS DOESN'T COUNT. I'M ONLY MAKING A DELIVERY.
10
Click
AH .. IZUMI-SAN!

SLAM!
Zoom
THEY LOOKED LIKE THEY WERE IN THEIR OWN LITTLE WORLD!!
Clack
?

Ka-chak
!?
MY SHOES ...?
MORE HARASS-MENT, HUH?
At least one of them fell to the ground
OUR SCHOOL UNIFORM SHOES ARE EXPENSIVE.

!?
CRASH
Bow Wow!
Bow Wow!
SNAP!
JUST A...
LITTLE BIT FA--
HUH?
Bow Wow!
STOP IT, SUMIKKO I'M NOT PLAYING UP HERE
You're gonna make me fall
Bow Wow!
Me, too!
Me, too!
Bow Wow!
Bow Wow!
Me, too!
Me, too!
Me, too!
spin spin
SUMIKKO
Ow!
ARE YOU OKAY?
HM? FOR SUCH A LONG FALL, THAT WAS AN AWFULLY SOFT...
SLAM
!!
EEEEEK!!
SHOOP

WAH!!
YOU DON'T APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN HURT.
Ye...Yes. Um... Thank you.
HE HELD ME LIKE I WAS A PRINCESS!
I'VE HELD OTHER PEOPLE THAT WAY, BUT NO ONE'S EVER CARRIED ME LIKE THAT BEFORE.

UM...ER... SO, WHY ARE YOU HERE, YASUKUNI-SAN?
Uh...
AH! MY SHOES!
Yippee!

I NEED TO LEAVE TOWN FOR A FEW DAYS, AND I HAVE A FAVOR TO ASK OF YOU
A FAVOR?
IF ANYTHING SHOULD HAPPEN WHILE I'M GONE...
... I'D LIKE YOU TO HELP IZUMI-SAMA OUT.
HUH!?
I REALLY DON'T THINK IZUMI-SAN WOULD--
THIS IS JUST BETWEEN YOU AND ME
I KNOW YOU UNDER-STAND.
I HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO RAISE SOME EXTRA MONEY FOR IZUMI-SAMA SO I NEED TO GO.
UNDER-STAND? WHAT IS HE SAYING?

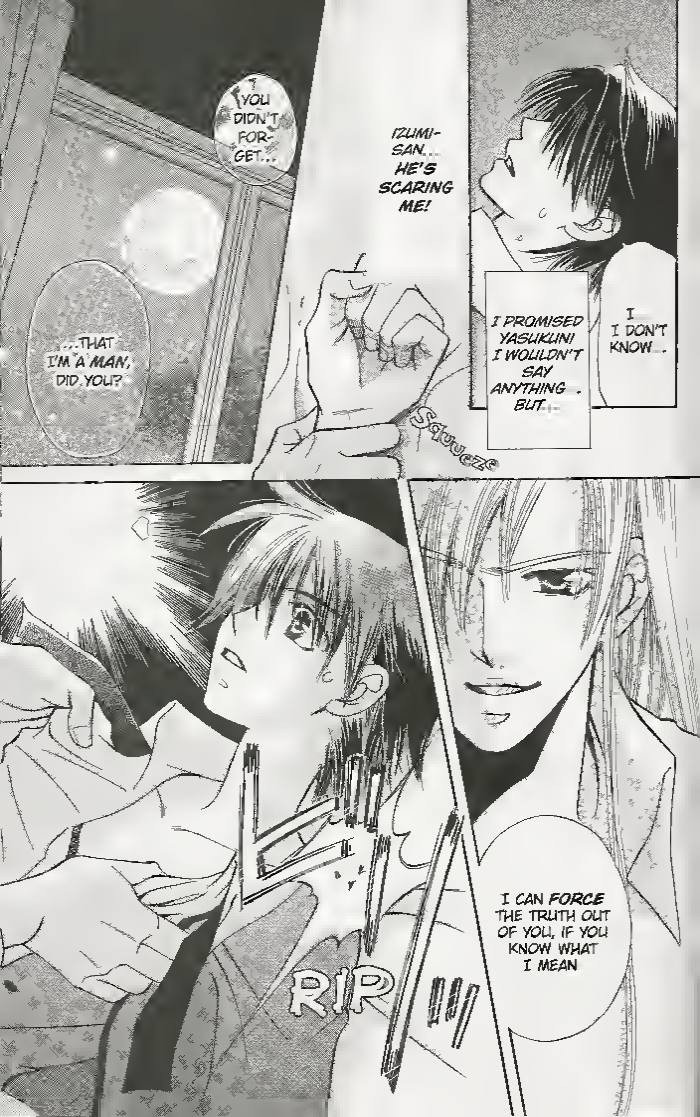
PLEASE DO THIS FOR ME.
Um...
ONLY UNTIL YOU GET BACK...
THANK YOU VERY MUCH
I WILL RETURN IN THREE DAYS.

I CAN'T BELIEVE I JUST ACCEPTED IT!
Sigh
Flop
YASUKUNI-SAN AND IZUMI-SAN...
...MUST HAVE A VERY SPECIAL RELATIONSHIP
YASU-KUNI
...AND HIKARU..?

"I WILL RETURN IN THREE DAYS."
TH, T'S WHAT YASUKUNI-SAN SAID, BUT...
IT'S ALREADY BEEN FOUR DAYS...
think think
HERE YOU GO.
chomp chomp
SINCE YASUKUNI-SAN LEFT, IZUMI-SAN HAS BEEN ACTING AWFULLY STRANGE. I WONDER WHY?
Sigh
104
Chak
!
WHY IS IT SO DARK...?

GRAB
カ
!!
AH--!
THE . THE LIGHT .
SLAM!
!
WHAT !?

IZUMI-SAN!?
WHERE THE HELL DID YASUKUNI GO?
YOU MUST KNOW SOMETHING. TELL ME!


I DON'T KNOW...
I PROMISED YASUKUNI I WOULDN'T SAY ANYTHING BUT...
IZUMI-SAN... HE'S SCARING ME!
YOU DIDN'T FOR-GET...
...THAT I'M A MAN, DID YOU?
Squeeze
I CAN FORCE THE TRUTH OUT OF YOU, IF YOU KNOW WHAT I MEAN
RIP

I CAN'T MOVE!
No!
THIS ISN'T THE IZUMI-SAN I KNOW!
PLEASE, NO!
I REALLY HAVE NO IDEA WHERE HE WENT!
HE JUST SAID HE WOULD BE ABLE TO RAISE SOME MONEY...

NO WAY...
Tch!
!!
Click
IZUMI-SAN?
I CAN'T BELIEVE IT! WHAT WAS HE THINKING? THAT IDIOT!!
SLAM
SERIOUSLY, HE HAS NO IDEA HOW I FEEL, DAMMIT!
?

H-HOW CAN YOU SAY THAT!?
HE'S DOING THIS FOR YOU!
THAT'S WHY I SAID HE'S AN IDIOT.

I'M SURE THAT FOR YASUKUNI-SAN...
IF HE WEREN'T TIED DOWN BY BAGGAGE LIKE ME, HE COULD BE LIVING AN EASIER LIFE
IZUMI-SAN
YOU'RE NOT BAGGAGE.
Squeeze...
IT'S MORE IMPORTANT TO BE WITH YOU
THAN TO LIVE AN EASIER LIFE

ANYWAY, THAT'S JUST MY OPINION.
MEANWHILE, SOMEONE LIKE YOU WOULD RATHER LIVE BAGGAGE-FREE, EVEN IF IT MEANS NOT HAVING A LIFE.
Grrp!
Leave me alone.
click
WHAT RE YOU DOING?
YASUKUNI MUST HAVE GONE TO HIS PARENTS' HOUSE.

HOME WAS THE ONE PLACE HE NEVER WANTED TO RETURN TO
SOMETHING MAY HAVE HAPPENED TO HIM
I'M GOING TO BRING HIM BACK.
BY YOURSELF?
TRUST ME.
WHAT AM I GETTING MYSELF INTO!?
BAH!
UH... WHAT ARE YOU...?

ERN
I HOPE YOU DON'T END UP REGRETTING THIS.
I PROMISED YASUKUNI-SAN THAT I'D STAY BY YOUR SIDE UNTIL HE RETURNS.
I'M COMING WITH YOU
End of Scene 4

天使じゃない!!
SCENE 5
TENSHI JA NAI!

Yuichi Akizuki, President
izuki Talent Agency (Age 33)

Yasukuni Inukai (Age 23)
Birthday July 7
Blood type. AB
Dog-type
He's Izumi Kido's guard dog. Don't be fooled by his gentle Golden Retriever looks His true character is that of a lone wolf. And when it comes to Izumi, he can be savage as a pit bull

IF YOU GET IN TROUBLE SOMEWHERE AND I'M NOT THERE TO BAIL YOU OUT, IT COULD MAKE THINGS DIFFICULT FOR MY BOTTOM LINE.
Ha Ha Ha!
Sheesh! Thanks for your concern!
IN CASE YOU'RE JUST JOINING US WE'RE IN THE MIDST OF .
"OPERATION: LET'S RESCUE YASUKUNI-SAN!!"
WATCH OUT!
EEP!
THE MAN IN THE CAR IS YASUKUNI'S FATHER.
VROOM
THAT WAS !!
LET'S GO, HIKARU.
I'LL BET YOU ANYTHING THAT OLD LADY KNOWS SOMETHING!
X To disguise himself Izumi dyed his hair black

WHATEVER YOU DO, MAKE SURE NO ONE RECOGNIZES THAT YOU'RE IZUMI KIDO
WAIT.
Slam-thak
DON'T TELL ME WHAT I ALREADY KNOW.
HUH?
I'M SURE HE'LL BE EXTRA CAREFUL.
WHERE ARE YOU HIDING YASUKUNI?
THAT'S WAY TOO OBVIOUS!
THAT'S A RELIEF AT LEAST HE WON'T TRY ANYTHING TOO RASH THAT WOULD JEOPARDIZE HIS IDOL CAREER.

I'M SURE HE'S BEEN HERE IN THE LAST FEW DAYS
I'M SORRY, BUT WE HAVE NO ONE HERE BY THAT NAME...
Gasp!
YOU ARE--!!
?
I'LL ASK YOU AGAIN WHERE'S YASUKUNI?

I'M SORRY, BUT I CAN'T...
HEY! I'M TALKING ABOUT YOUR GRAND-SON
THEN AGAIN, YOU STOPPED BEING HIS GRANDMOTHER A LONG TIME AGO, DIDN'T YOU?
YASUKUNI IS MINE NOW
WHAT!?
I NEED HIM BACK
THE MASTER KNOWS WHERE HE IS

TONIGHT YOU SHOULD BE ABLE TO FIND HIM AT CLUB LIQUEUR IN GINZA.
THERE'S NOTHING MORE I CAN TELL YOU.
BUT YASUKUNI-SAN'S LAST NAME IS INUKAI, ISN'T IT?
AND THAT OLD WOMAN...
宝条 HOJO
LET'S GO, HIKARU.
O... OKAY.
HOJO?
I OWE YOU ONE.

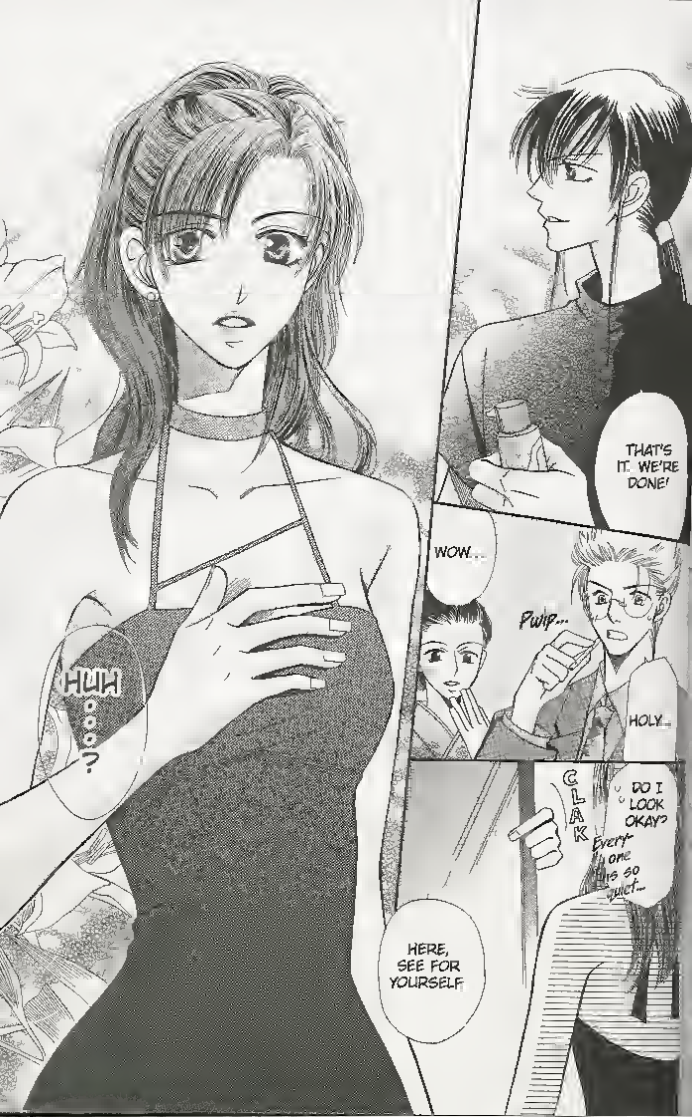
Lingerie
I'M SORRY TO IMPOSE ON YOU LIKE THIS, MA'AM
IT'S NO PROBLEM, YU-SAN YOU'VE DONE FAVORS FOR ME BEFORE BUT .
...I WONDER IF SHE'S GOING TO BE OKAY...
I... I MOST CERTAINLY AM NOT OKAY!
HOLD STILL, STUPID.

WH...WHY DO I HAVE TO DRESS UP IN THIS!?
BECAUSE SOMEONE HAS TO ASK THE OLD GUY WHERE YASUKUNI-KUN IS..
...AND THERE'S NO WAY I'M LETTING IZUMI-CHAN DO IT! Y'KNOW?
IT'LL BE FINE! ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS LOOK PRETTY...
...GET THE OLD MAN DRUNK AND PUMP HIM FOR INFORMATION!
NO WAY!
!
I TOLD YOU TO STAY STILL!
SQUEEZE
Ugh!
sob sob
Fine...
HAVE A SEAT RIGHT THERE
Hmph!
HM?
UM... IZUMI-SAN?
SWF... SWF
THAT'S RIGHT

THE NAME ON YASUKUNI-SAN'S PARENTS' HOUSE SAID "HOJO."
AND THAT OLD WOMAN...
I'M SORRY... UM...
MAYBE I SHOULDN'T HAVE ASKED.
IN THAT HOUSEHOLD...
...YASUKUNI DOESN'T REALLY EXIST.

HE WAS AN ILLEGITIMATE CHILD, BORN WHEN HIS FATHER SLEPT WITH ONE OF THE HOUSE-KEEPERS.
EH?
HE DOESN'T EXIST?
HIS MOM WAS THE DAUGHTER OF THAT OLD WOMAN.
SHE DIED A WHILE BACK, THOUGH
NINE YEARS AGO, YASUKUNI WAS ADOPTED BY MY FATHER, AND EVER SINCE...
...HE'S USED HIS MOTHER'S LAST NAME.

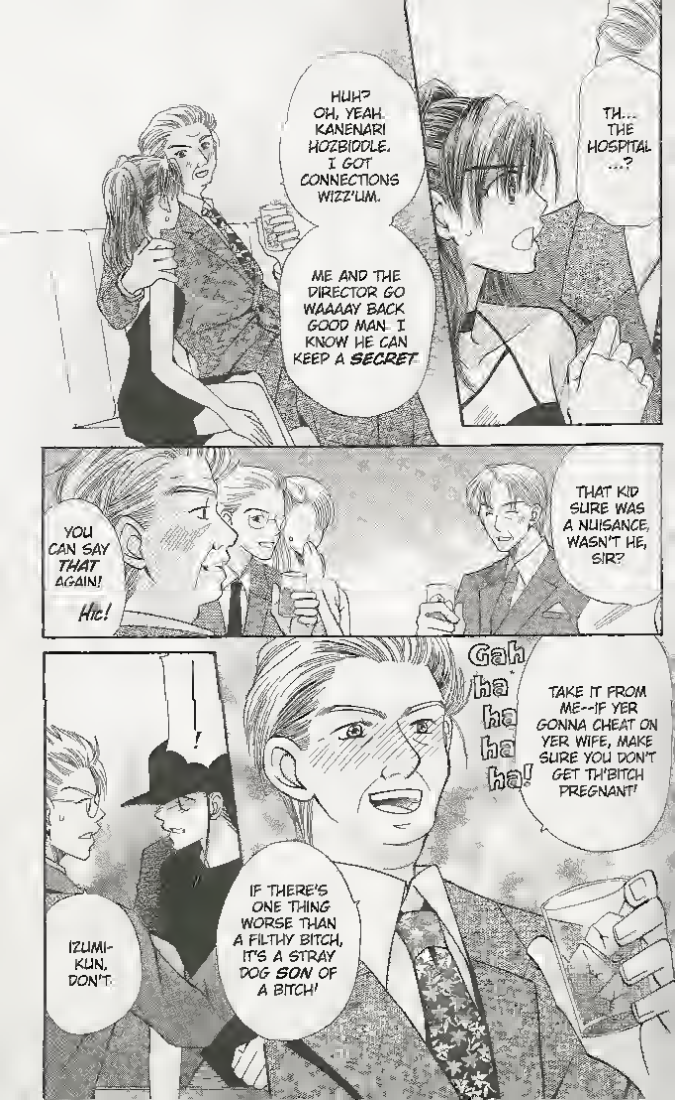
I'M SORRY I ASKED SOMETHING SO PERSONAL.
I NEVER REALIZED YASUKUNI-SAN HAD SUCH A DIFFICULT BACKGROUND...
IZUMI-SAN...
DON'T BE.
THAT PLACE IS NO LONGER HIS HOME.
YASUKUNI'S HOME WILL ALWAYS BE WHEREVER I AM.
UM, IZUMI-SAN...
I'M NOT SURE THIS IS MY LOOK...
Help!
Bring me some wigs!
HEY! WHO'S THE IDOL HERE? LEAVE THE OPINIONS TO ME!
Hey! Watch where you're sticking that!
LET'S TRY THIS ONE
O-OKAY!
OPEN YOUR MOUTH SO I CAN PUT ON YOUR LIPSTICK
crimp
pop
WAAAH!!
clip
snip
NOT THAT WIDE

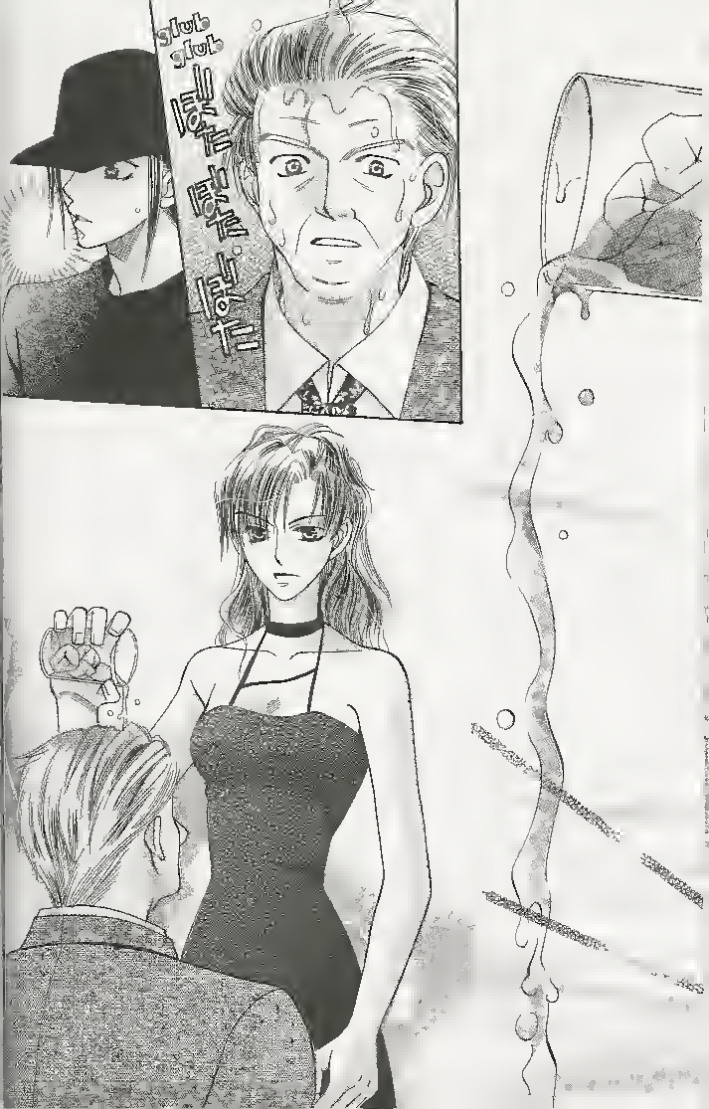

THAT'S IT. WE'RE DONE!
WOW...
PWIP...
HOLY...
CLAK
DO I LOOK OKAY?
Everyone is so quiet...
HERE, SEE FOR YOURSELF
HUH...?

I outdid myself.
Heh!
WHO IS THIS!?
YOU LOOK PERFECT
ALL RIGHT COME THIS WAY AND I'LL INTRODUCE YOU TO MY CUSTOMERS
AH! JUST A--
HIKARU!
GOOD LUCK.
character
character

COME SIT NEXT TO PAPA!
OH HO! HIKARI-CHAN, HUH?
TH-THANK YOU VERY MUCH!
HOJO-SAN. THIS IS OUR NEW FACE, HIKARI-CHAN.
MY NAME IS HI ..HIKARI IT'S A PLEASURE TO MEET YOU.
NOW, NOW, ARISA-CHAN. DON'T BE JEALOUS.
Ha Ha Ha
clink
HEEEY.. THAT'S NOT WHAT YOU SAID LAST NIGHT!
YOUNG GALS ARE THE BEST, YOU KNOW?
WHAT AM I DOING HERE!?
Ga Ha Ha Ha Ha!
NEXT ROUND'S ON ME! KEEP THE LIQUOR FLOWING!

THAT'S RIGHT! PUMP HIM INFOR-MATION.
AFTER THE DAY I'VE HAD, I NEED ALL TH'BOOZE I CAN GET. MY BLOOD'S STILL BOILING FROM DEALING WIZZAT IDIOT DOG.
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.
THIS STRAY DOG CAME BEGGIN' TO ME FOR MONEY MONEY! TH'NERVE, RIGHT?
Hm?
dizz
dizz
WH...WHAT DID THIS BAD DOG DO?
YASUKUNI-SAN!!
I MEAN, WHO CARRIES A SWORD? I EVEN HADDA SEND 'IM TO TH' HOZBIDDLE.
ON TOPPA THAT, WHEN I TRIED TO GET RID OF HIM, HE FELL ONNIZ OWN SWORD, CAN YOU BELIEVE IT?
MONEY —?
"DOG"... COULD HE BE TALKING ABOUT..?


TH... THE HOSPITAL ...?
HUH? OH, YEAH. KANENARI HOZBIDDLE. I GOT CONNECTIONS WIZZ'LIM.
ME AND THE DIRECTOR GO WAAAAY BACK GOOD MAN. I KNOW HE CAN KEEP A SECRET.
THAT KID SURE WAS A NUISANCE, WASN'T HE, SIR?
YOU CAN SAY THAT AGAIN! Hic!
TAKE IT FROM ME--IF YER GONNA CHEAT ON YER WIFE, MAKE SURE YOU DON'T GET TH'BITCH PREGNANT!
Gah ha ha ha ha!
!
IF THERE'S ONE THING WORSE THAN A FILTHY BITCH, IT'S A STRAY DOG SON OF A BITCH!
IZUMI-KUN, DON'T.


Shuh shuh
ไม่ใช่ ไม่ใช่ ไม่ใช่

IS THAT HOW YOU TALK ABOUT YOUR OWN SON!?
WH... WHAT THE HELL DO YOU THINK YOU'RE DOING!?
THAT'S NO WAY FOR A PARENT TO TALK!
WHY YOU LITTLE--!
NO MATTER WHAT THE TEACHER OR PARENTS OF THE OTHER STUDENTS SAID, MY MOM WAS ON MY SIDE.
WHEN I WAS BEING HARASSED BY MY CLASSMATES, I COULD AT LEAST COUNT ON MY MOM TO STAND BY ME.
EVEN A STRAY DOG HAS FEELINGS!
IS THIS REALLY YASUKUNI-SAN'S FAMILY!?

YOU'RE EVEN LOWER THAN A STRAY DOG!
THIS MAN DOESN'T DESERVE TO BE YASUKUNI-SAN'S FATHER!!
SHAME ON YOU!
I—I'M TERRIBLY SORRY!
IS THIS HOW YOU GUYS TREAT YOUR CUSTOMERS!?
THE REAL FAMILY WAITING FOR YASUKUNI-SAN IS...
SMASH!!
WHAT ARE YOU GOING TO DO ABOUT THIS!?
WHO DOES THIS GIRL THINK SHE IS!?
!

AH--!!
LET'S GO!
IZUMI-SAN!!
GRAB
!!
PLEASE CALM DOWN, SIR!
HEY! GET BACK HERE, BITCH! YOU CAN'T JUST RUN AWAY!
THAT'S RIGHT, BIG SHOT! ARISA'S BEEN WAITING TO GET COZY WITH YOU.
Boo!
Tee hee!
WHILE YOU'RE WASTING TIME ON THAT TEASE, THE LADIES HERE ARE GETTING JEALOUS
You're Mr. popular!
WHO THE HELL ARE YOU?
LET THE FOOLISH LITTLE BIRD FLY AWAY
Ciao!
HM? ZAT SO?
Hic!

What a shallow, shallow man...
Hee Hee!
Hee Hee!
WELL, WHEN YOU PUT IT THAT WAY!
LET BYGONES BE BYGONES! DRINK UP!
I'LL TAKE CARE OF THE BILL.
Kanenari Hospital
VRRRM
LET'S GO.
slam
HE HASN'T REALLY SPOKEN TO ME SINCE WE LEFT THE CLUB.
I WONDER IF IZUMI-SAN IS MAD AT ME?
UH... OKAY.

AH... UM!
I'M SORRY.
!?
I CAUSED A LOT OF TROUBLE FOR THE HOSTESS AND AKIZUKI-SAN.
TELL ME ABOUT IT.
THAT WAS QUITE A SCENE YOU CREATED BACK THERE. WHAT IF SOMEONE FOUND OUT WHO IT WAS THAT BROUGHT YOU?
UGH
YOU ALWAYS SAY YOU DON'T WANT TO STAND OUT, BUT MAN, YOU REALLY BROUGHT THE SPOTLIGHT ON YOURSELF TONIGHT.
THAT SAID...

THANK YOU...
smile
...FOR STANDING UP FOR HIM
IZUMI-SAN..

AW, MAN!!
WHY IS HE HERE!?
EH?
AH!
AKIZUKI-SAN!
Why!?
YOU SURE TOOK YOUR TIME IN GETTING HERE!
WHAT DID YOU COME HERE FOR?
OH, THE SCORN!
AND AFTER I CAME ALL THIS WAY TO ARRANGE FOR YOU TO GO IN AND SEE HIM IN PRIVATE!
Always picking on poor Yu-chan
UM! AKIZUKI-SAN, I'M SORRY ABOUT EARLIER I DIDN'T MEAN TO--
NOT NOW. IT'S YASUKUNI-KUN YOU SHOULD BE WORRIED ABOUT HURRY UP AND GO TO ROOM 203
APPARENTLY HE'S IN A COMA.

YASUKUNI-SAN IS--!?
DASH
IZUMI-SAN!!
YASUKUNI-SAN IS IN A COMA..
IF SOMETHING SHOULD HAPPEN TO HIM, WHAT WILL BECOME OF IZUMI-SAN!?
IF SOMETHING...
WILL HE BE OKAY!?

203
Yasukuni Izuki
大鋼未園
Huff
Huff
YASUKUNI!
ka-chack
tremble
Gasp!
!
DAMMIT!
203
I HATE HOSPITALS
IZUMI-SAN...
YOU SAW HIM, DIDN'T YOU?
AT THE HOSPITAL AKIZUKI TOOK YOU TO...
...YOU SAW HIM. YOU SAW MY FATHER

IZUMI-SAN'S --!!
SO THAT WAS ..
"IT'S OKAY, IZUMI. WE CAN BE TOGETHER IN _"
HIS FRIEND BETRAYED HIM AND LEFT HIM DEEP IN DEBT.
SO HE TRIED TO KILL HIMSELF.
"DADDY!!"
HE'S BEEN IN A COMA EVER SINCE.
I HAVE NO IDEA IF HE'LL EVER WAKE UP

turn
KAchak
YASU-KUNI..
IZUMI-SAN...
GRAB
ARE YOU OKA--
!!

Blush...
I... IZUMI-SAN!?
FOR ME...

...THE ONLY PERSON I HAVE LEFT...
...IS YASUKUNI.
I'M SURE YASUKUNI-SAN...
...WILL BE OKAY.
IT'S... OKAY.

YE...YES.
BE-
SIDES...
I'M HERE FOR YOU, TOO
YOU... YOU ARE?

GROAN
むくっ
Groan ?
!?
IZUMI-SAMA?
YASU-KUNI!!
DAMN YOU, AKIZUKI!
He tricked me!
I HEARD THAT YOU WERE IN A COMA!
?
NO I'VE JUST BEEN SLEEPING SINCE THIS MORNING THEY GAVE ME SOME TESTS AND I'VE BEEN OUT OF IT EVER SINCE I'M SORRY
I LIKE THIS IZUMI-SAN...
BETTER THAN THE PRETENDING IZUMI-SAN.
THE IZUMI-SAN WHO SPEAKS FROM THE HEART. .
THE IZUMI-SAN WHO SHINES FROM WITHIN.

THAT'S THE REAL IZUMI-SAN.
NO... IT'S FINE, AS LONG AS YOU'RE OKAY.
EH?
DON'T WORRY, YASUKUNI.
FROM NOW ON, HIKARU WILL ALWAYS HELP US OUT.
YOU JUST SAID YOU'D BE THERE FOR ME!
W-WAIT A MINUTE! I NEVER SAID--!
Why?
...YOU--
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU WERE BEING ALL EMOTIONAL! YOU TRICKED ME YOU CHEATER!
smile
FOR SOME REASON...
...I'M SURE EVERYTHING WILL WORK OUT ALL RIGHT.
End of Scene 5